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M. F. RYAN, Business Manager.

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VOL. XI. PITTSBURGH, MONDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 22, 1873. NO. 86.

FIRST EDITION

VILLE DU HAVRE.

Official Report of the Captain of the Loch Earn.

Particulars of the Collision

A TOUCHING INCIDENT.

AN APPEAL FOR CHARITY.

NEW YORK, December 20.—London papers of the 8th, received to-day, contain the official report of Captain Robertson, of the Loch Earn, which sunk the steamer Ville du Havre. It is as follows, in so far as it relates to the collision:

"November 22d, at 2 A. M., in latitude 46° 54' north, longitude 35° 9' west, wind S. S. W., true, ship braced up on port tack, heading, by standard compass, N. W. by W., or W. 1-2° N., true, a steamer's masthead was seen from one to two points on the port bow. Our side lights were out and burning brightly. Shortly after we saw the steamer's three lights. She was coming straight for us. Almost immediately she showed only her port and masthead lights and was steering apparently to pass under our stern. After a short time we rang our bell and ported helm, as we thought she was coming too near, the steamer still showing only her port light. When close to, or how the steamer's helm was starboarded and she was across our bow. A collision was inevitable. An order was given to back our afteryards, but before the brace could be let go, the two vessels came in collision, the Loch Earn striking the steamer amidships. The ships immediately separated. We threw our afteryards aback; half the crew then shortened sail and the remainder cleared away the port lifeboat. The carpenter, being at the pumps, reported that the ship was making no water and then went forward and found the bowsprit gone and the bow smashed completely in, but the collision bulkhead was apparently uninjured. A boat from the Ville du Havre then came alongside, containing an officer and four men. I asked if the steamer was much injured. He said she was injured but did not say she wanted assistance, and no signals of distress were made by the steamer. I thought at the time that the boat was sent to render us assistance, but while talking to the officer, I saw the steamer apparently settling down, and lowered the port lifeboat at once in charge of the second officer and four men, who made towards the sinking ship. Our cutter and starboard life-boat were then cleared away and in a few minutes dispatched to the scene of the catastrophy, their only guide being the cries of the drowning people. The steamer having disappeared, we kept our boats out till daylight, until every one floating among the wreck was picked up. We succeeded in saving eighty-four persons out of three hundred and six, a large proportion having gone down with the steamer. The Ville du Havre only floated about fifteen minutes after being struck."

Captain Robertson then proceeds to give an account of his falling in with the Trimountain and transferring the steamer's passengers and crew to her, with the exception of Messrs. Cook and Weass and one of the steamer's firemen, who was injured. He then gives an account of his struggles to save his vessel. The following incident of the disaster is told by the captain of the Loch Earn: A lady swam alongside with a child in her arms; a rope was thrown to her, which she seized, but in attempting to be pulled up, holding on by one arm and with the other round her child, her strength failed her and the child was lost; but the poor mother was hauled on board.

An imposing requiem mass was solemnized at Havre on the 8th inst., in honor of the victims. The Cathedral, draped in black from roof to floor, was thronged by a congregation of five thousand persons. The catafalque was surrounded by sailors of the Republican navy, and all the civic, naval and military dignitaries of the place were present. The cure's sermon was interrupted by bursts of grief from the worshipers. All the ships in the harbor have dressed their flags half mast high, and business was at a standstill. The public subscription amounts to forty thousand francs, including the contributions of the company. The singers of the Paris opera are to give a performance of "La Favorita," at Havre for the benefit of the families of the victims.

Professor Rufet of the Geneva Theological Seminary, in which Cæsar Protier (lost by the Ville du Havre disaster) was professor, writes to this country asking if American Christians could do something for Pronier's numerous family. He leaves a wife sick for many years, and six children, the oldest being only thirteen and a half years of age.

The Glasgow *News* of the 9th says that the Captain of the Loch Earn contradicts the report that Captain Surmont left his ship in a cowardly manner.

HAVANA ADVICES.

Rumored Trouble Between England and Spain—Punishment of Burriel Demanded—European squadron Expected—The Salute to Our Flag—Virginius on Her Way Northward.

KEY WEST, December 20.—Information reached here yesterday, from Havana, that serious complications in regard to Cuba have arisen between the Spanish and British governments. The advices did not state the precise nature of the difficulties, but it has become known here that the British Consul General at Havana has received dispatches from Lord Granville, to instruct all naval commanders in the West Indies to immediately rendezvous in Cuban ports. It is stated that in official circles it is certainly known that the British government will assuredly demand the punishment of Burriel. The British admiral has left for St. Thomas, where he expects to be relieved.

Admiral Scott looks for the arrival of our European squadron in a few days, when Admiral Case, unless relieved, will assume command. It is now looked upon as certain that the salute to our flag, required by the terms of the protocol, will be made in as informal a manner as possible. The feeling among the officers of the squadron here, is one of much dissatisfaction.

The Virginius passed here yesterday, to the North, under charge of the Ossipee, in a leaky condition.

ZANESVILLE, OHIO.

No Verdict in the Wolford Case—Probably Fatal Result of an Accident.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

ZANESVILLE, O., December 20, 1873.

The Wolford murder case was given to the jury at three o'clock this afternoon, and up to nine o'clock no verdict has been rendered.

Dr. George Blockson is growing weaker, and will not probably last over night. He fell from a wagon about two weeks ago and injured his head.

CASUALTIES.

Sad Case of Insanity.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

FORT WAYNE, IND., December 20, 1873.

A. C. Reed, whose drug store was destroyed by fire a few weeks since, has become insane over its loss and the charges made against him of arson. He was acquitted of this charge, but it has weighed heavily upon his mind. He will be sent to the insane asylum at Indianapolis next week.

Bursting of an Emery Wheel.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

URBANA, O., December 20, 1873.

An emery wheel at the Excelsior machine works in this city, while revolving at a rapid speed burst this afternoon, striking a German workman on the head and seriously injuring him.

Fireman Injured while Coupling Cars.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

CAMBRIDGE, O., December 21, 1873.

A man named McKee, fireman on the Marietta, Pittsburgh and Cleveland Railroad, while attempting to couple his engine to a train at Caldwell on yesterday evening, was thrown upon the track, the engine passing over his leg and crushing it so badly that his recovery is very doubtful.

RAILWAY MATTERS.

Reduction of Rates on Baltimore and Ohio.

CINCINNATI, December 20.—The officers of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad here are advised that on and after next Monday, passenger rates from Baltimore to Cincinnati and other Western cities will be reduced twenty to thirty-three per cent. below the present rates.

NEWS SUMMARY.

BY TELEGRAPH.

Outstanding legal tenders amount to $375,502,318.

The steamer Rhein, from Breinen, arrived at New York on Saturday.

By the deed of endowment of the school at Penigues, given by Mr. Anderson, Professor Agassiz had the right to select his successor as president, and he chose his son, Alexander Agassiz.

President Grant met a number of old friends last evening at an informal dinner at the house of General Harney in St. Louis, after which he, accompanied by his son and other gentlemen who came here with him, left for Washington by the Vandalia Railroad.

EUROPE.

BY THE ATLANTIC CABLE.

England.

THE NEW FRENCH MINISTER.

LONDON, December 20.—The report that M. Barthold, of the French Legation at St. Petersburg, had been appointed Minister to Washington, is confirmed.

RAISED TO THE PEERAGE.

LONDON, December 21.—Monsell, late Postmaster General, has been raised to the Peerage.

DEATH OF A MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT.

Sir Joshua Cowen, Member of Parliament, for Newcastle-upon-Tyne, died to-day, aged seventy-three.

THE ASHANTER EXPEDITION.

The crew of the Sprite, which was preparing to sail from Woolwich for Gold Coast, having deserted in a body, her departure will be delayed one day. Dispatches from Cape Coast castle as late as the 27th of November, report that although there has been a few skirmishes with the Ashantees, they were not of an important character, and the expedition was practically at a stand-still, awaiting the arrival of English regiments now on their way.

THIRTEEN PERSONS DROWNED IN THE THAMES.

LONDON, December 21.—A ferry boat capsized on the Thames, to-day, and thirteen persons were drowned.

THE CARTAGENA SIEGE—REINFORCEMENT FOR THE GOVERNMENT.

LONDON, December 21.—The correspondent of the *Standard*, near Cartagena, telegraphs that the besiegers received a reinforcement of 1,500 men on Friday, and 4,000 more are expected to arrive before the assault, which will probably be made next week. The insurgents are demoralized, and desertions are frequent.

Spain.

RUMORED DEMAND FOR A RETURN OF THE VIRGINIUS, HER PASSENGERS AND CREW.

MADRID, December 20.—It is reported that the Cabinet has decided to make a demand upon the United States for the return of the steamship Virginius and her passengers and crew, recently surrendered. It is also said that in accordance with this decision, President Castelar has written to Minister Sickles.

PROGRESS OF CARTAGENA CAMPAIGN.

MADRID, December 20.—The troops besieging Cartagena advanced to within eight hundred metres of that city yesterday, and took some prisoners. The intransigents made several sorties, but were repulsed. The Minister of War has complimented the commander of the government forces.

SICKLES TO RESIGN.

General Sickles, the American Minister, has determined to tender his resignation.

EXULTATION AT MADRID OVER THE DEMAND FOR THE VIRGINIUS—SICKLES RESIGNS AGAIN.

Herald Cable Special.

PARIS, December 21.—A cipher dispatch from the *Herald* correspondent at Madrid, announces that Spain demands the restoration of the Virginius. There is great exultation in consequence of Secretary Fish admitting that the Virginius was not entitled to carry the flag of the United States. The demand was delivered on Friday. General Sickles has telegraphed to Washington insisting upon the acceptance of his resignation.

Germany.

THE ARCHBISHOP DECLINES FURTHER HONORS.

BERLIN, December 21.—Archbishop Ledochowski has declined to stand as candidate for the Reichstag.

SERIOUS ILLNESS OF THE EMPEROR.

BERLIN, December 21.—Emperor William has had a slight attack of apoplexy, which causes much anxiety, and efforts are being made to conceal his condition.

Italy.

DEATH OF THE LIEUTENANT GENERAL.

ROME, December 21.—Lieutenant General Bixio, of the Italian army, is dead.

Marine News.

LONDON, December 20.—Steamships Algeria and Egypt arrived out.

European Markets.

LONDON, December 20.—Consols, 91¾@92; 5-20s, 94¾; do. '67, 94¾; 10 40's, 92; new 5's, 91¾; Erie, 36¾.

PARIS, December 20.—Rentes 58 francs 37½ centimes.

LIVERPOOL, December 20.—Cotton easier at 8½d sales to-day 10,000 bales, including 2,000 bales exports and export 2,000 bales. Breadstuffs quiet and unchanged. Lard 40s 6d. Others unchanged.

ANTWERP, December 20.—Refined petroleum 31 francs.

INDIAN TERRITORY.

Objections to the Introduction of Wild Indians—Alarm at the President's Message—Delegation to Visit Washington.

VINITA, INDIAN TERRITORY, December 20.—Considerable excitement exists in the Indian Territory over the recommendation of the President in his message to Congress to organize the Territory for the purpose of locating the wild Indians among those people. At the recent meeting of the Okmulgee Convention they declined to take any action in regard to modifying the constitution until Congress changed its policy in regard to the Indians of the plains. They say that for sixty years they have been trying to civilize themselves and their children, and that now to place the Modocs, Kickapoos, Arapahoes, Kiowas, and Comanches alongside of them as neighbors would demoralize the children and destroy the labor of years. A large number of them told Superintendent Hoage that if the government would change the line to the twenty-eighth meridian, and adopt them as citizens of the United States and confine wild Indians to the country West of them, there would be no opposition. Although the people to a territorial government, and allotment of land. A delegation of prominent colored people will visit Washington in January to urge Congress to give them their property right in the Territory, and citizenship in the United States. All the people seem anxious that Congress should, this session, give them courts and a form of government that will protect them in all their rights. They are now satisfied that citizenship and a restriction of the limits of territory so as to exclude the settlement of wild Indians in their midst, will alone save them from degradation, and advance the civilization of the people.

CRIMES.

Decidedly Unpleasant Mistake.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

NEW LISBON, IND., December 20, 1873.

J. W. Marks, ex-Sheriff of this county, while on his way home from town late last night, was struck with a club and knocked senseless by some unknown person. He is at present in a critical condition. It is evident that the assaulting party was mistaken, and intended to rob another man who has been displaying large sums of money for the last few days.

Suicide of a German Laborer.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

BUCYRUS, O., December 20, 1873.

A German by the name of Christian Karley, employed as a laborer in the Bucyrus machine works of this place, committed suicide last night by cutting his throat with a razor. The deed is ascribed to mental derangement. He leaves a wife and one child.

Arrest of Lord Massey.

PHILADELPHIA, December 20.—Lord Massey, so-called, who, it is alleged, swindled a number of people at Cape May last summer, was arrested on the steamer Pennsylvania on her arrival here to-day and taken to West Chester, Pa., on a charge of swindling parties living in Chester county.

An Insane Man Murders his Wife and Four Children and Himself.

INGERSOLL, ONTARIO, December 21.—A man named Timothy Tappine, killed his wife and four children this morning, by cutting their throats with a butcher knife. He also tried to murder his two oldest boys, but they succeeded in disarming him and fled for help to the neighbors. On their return they found that he had cut his throat. The latest advices he was still alive. The cause assigned for the butchery is insanity, caused by financial trouble.

An old Sexton Drowned in a Cemetery.

BUFFALO, N. Y., December 21.—Edward Bell, for thirty years past sexton of Dr. Lord's church in this city, having been missing since Friday last, was found last evening drowned in two feet of water at Forest Lawn Cemetery. It is supposed that he has been foully dealt with.

Louisville Workingmen Demand Work or Money.

LOUISVILLE, December 20.—A large meeting of workingmen of this city was held to-night at the court house to consider the needy situation of the thousands out of employment. The burden of speeches made was that the workingmen want either paid labor or money to enable them to get through the winter. A petition was framed, addressed to the General Council, asking for immediate action in the way of assistance in labor on public works or an appropriation of money. A committee of five was appointed to organize a manufacturers and laborers exchange, to report on Monday.

POLITICAL.

California.

THE SENATORIAL CONTEST—ELECTION OF BOOTH.

SAN FRANCISCO, December 21.—The election of Booth to the United States Senate is the signal for great rejoicing throughout the State. Judge Hager, of this city, a prominent anti-railroad candidate, but a Democrat, holds the lead on the balloting for the short term, and, it is believed, will be elected. Shafter stands next and Cole next. The two last are Republicans.

Great Inducements for Cash

For flour and all kinds of groceries at the Checkered Front.

SECOND EDITION.

WASHINGTON.

LATEST SPANISH RUMORS.

Re-Surrender of the Virginius Demanded.

Her Papers Illegally Procured

The Flag Not to be Saluted.

Condition of National Finances

Healthy Showing for Customs and Internal Revenue.

Secretary Richardson's Latest Views.

Nomination of Mr. Williams to be Withdrawn.

He May Succeed Minister Sickles.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 21, 1873.

The Spanish Question.

The cable dispatch from Madrid, to-day, to the effect that Spain would demand the resurrender of the Virginius, is looked upon in government and diplomatic circles as absurd. It is apprehended, however, that Spain will prefer a formal claim of damages arising out of the depredations of the Virginius and kindred craft.

Internal Revenue Receipts.

The Commissioner of Internal Revenue gives a very flattering account of the returns from the various collection districts. The total for the month, up to the close of business yesterday, was $5,306,076, and he thinks for the full month the total will be $7,800,000. The average for July, August and September was $8,700,000. During October and November he fell behind four millions. He will be short this month only one million. The total amount reported from July 1st to date, is forty-five millions, with a little over six months to run. He thinks the aggregate for the year, from present appearances, will come up to his estimate, which was one hundred millions. But for the panic the total would not have been less than one hundred and five millions.

Receipts from Customs.

The reports received by the Commissioner of Customs show receipts to the amount of $48,912,715 from July 1 to September 30, 1873, and from October 1 to December 20, lacking but eleven days of the full quarter, $28,546,933, making a total of $77,459,648. The returns of the last week show an increase, and the change in the better is considered permanent. The total for the last fiscal year was a trifle over one hundred and eighty-three millions, and the remaining six months will probably bring the total up to at least one hundred and seventy millions.

National Finances Improving.

Secretary Richardson, in conversation yesterday, gave a very hopeful view of the condition of the finances of the government. Notwithstanding these brighter prospects, he did not think it would be advisable to delay action in the matter of making timely provisions for possible contingencies, and therefore he hoped Congress, when it again met, would take some action by which he would feel free to act if necessity occasioned. The Secretary thought that Congress, in addition to requesting a recodification of statutes, had better appoint a commission to investigate their legislation on the subject of offices and appropriations. There were many unnecessary offices and other sources of expenditure which could just as well be abolished. The Secretary says that the statement that the German government has made another purchase of United States bonds is incorrect, as far as any information that he has on the subject goes.

Williams's Nomination to be Withdrawn.

It is said, to-night, that before the President left for the West, he stated to a friend that if the Senate took a recess without confirming the nomination of Mr. Williams, he would withdraw his name. Senators are certainly advised the President to that course. It is a singular fact, that Mr. Williams's most bitter opponents are men from the Pacific slope, and especially from Oregon. It is rumored that Mr. Williams will be tendered the mission to Spain.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 20, 1873.

INTERNAL REVENUE RECEIPTS.

The Internal Revenue receipts for the month are $5,306,076; and for the fiscal year, $45,119,067.

EUROPEAN MAIL SERVICE.

The Postmaster General announces that he will arrange a system by which European mails shall be dispatched from this city four times a week on steamers sailing on any given Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday or Saturday, which, according to their past record, best fulfills the three conditions of speed, security and certainty.

WASHINGTON, December 21, 1873.

HISTORY OF THE VIRGINIUS TROUBLE—OFFICIAL DISPATCHES OF COMMANDER BRAINE.

Rear Admiral Scott has sent to the Secretary of the Navy a large number of documents connected with the capture of the Virginius and the execution which followed it. These include the list of 108 who were in prison at Santiago De Cuba, thirteen of whom were shot. But four Americans are among the number given. Those who were executed in addition to the thirteen above mentioned were in jail only a few hours, with the exception of Captain Fry, who was not taken to that place. According to the official report concerning the mode of trial by court martial, Captain Fry declined to answer all questions put to him, protesting that by the laws of nations he and his crew had committed no offense that justified his or their imprisonment or trial as pirates, claiming to be in command of an American merchant vessel furnished with all properly certified papers which he had delivered to the boarding officers of the capturing vessel. D. N. Rowe, of Eastport, Maine, deposed, at Kingston, Jamaica, that from his knowledge of navigation, the Virginius when captured could not have been less than seventy miles from the coast of Cuba.

The report from Madrid that the Spanish government has decided to make a demand upon the United States for the return of the Virginius and passengers and crew, is discredited here, for the reason that they were delivered to the United States by virtue of a procotol between the two countries, subject to judicial proceedings.

Commander Braine, in his letter to the Secretary of the Navy, dated Santiago de Cuba, November 30, communicating the information he obtained about the Virginius says: You will see by my letter and protest to his excellency Senor Brigadier Commandante General Don A Morales, that I protested against any further punishment to any of the officers, crew and passengers of the Virginius, irrespective of their nationality, and if any more were ordered to be executed I must be informed before it took place, as I claimed that the American flag protected all. I have taken means to circulate it ashore in the city, that if any of the prisoners taken from the Virginius are executed, I will sunk every Spanish gunboat and other Spanish men-of-war here that I can get at. I feel assured that this rumor has had a good effect. You will observe by my interview, that the General asks in reply to my suggestion that an easy partial solution to this already complicated affair would be to deliver up all people now alive belonging to the Virginius, "In what manner could that be done?" I replied, "Hang them in front of the latest arrived ship of war in the port." The latter has the honor to command, restoring them under the flag from which they were taken." The Governor replied that he could not do so without orders from his superiors.

Commander Braine asked if the people taken from the American steamer Virginius were executed by authority of the highest ruling power in the Island or by order of government officials here. The Governor answered "By the government here." The Commander asked if the same power that ordered their execution could not order their release and delivery to him.

The Governor replied in the negative; the people taken from the Virginius were executed by an order previously issued by the Admiral commanding the naval forces of the island. The others were executed under authority of an order issued by General De Rodas.

Commander Braine—"But were there not passengers on board the American steamer Virginius?"

The Governor—"You must recollect that there were many Spaniards among the passengers, and one among them a deserter from our army on this Island."

Commander Braine—"Yes, but they were taken from an American steamer on the high seas."

The Governor—"On the night of the arrival of the Virginius at this port, in looking over papers, an order was found issued by the late Captain General, and it was under his order that the trial and executions took place."

Commander Braine—"But I have to remind you that both the United States and British governments protested against that order, and told the Spanish government that they would not allow any such interference, and that the most that the United States government could admit would be the confiscation of the vessel and cargo."

Commander Braine having received assurances that his dispatch to the United States government would be forwarded without interruption, thanked the Governor for his courtesy, and withdrew, after delivering in person the written protest relative to the officers, crew and passengers of the American steamer Virginius.

NO SALUTE TO THE FLAG—SPAIN SATISFIES THE GOVERNMENT OF THE WORTHLESSNESS OF THE PAPERS OF THE VIRGINIUS—VESSEL AND GUILTY PARTIES TO BE PROCEEDED AGAINST.

It has been known for some days that the Spanish government has furnished evidence with regard to the Virginius and her right to bear the flag of the United States, and that the President submitted the evidence to the Attorney General for his opinion thereon. It seems now to be understood in official circles, that the Attorney General has given an opinion that the vessel had forfeited the right to bear the flag of the United States, and at the time of her capture was carrying it without right and improperly. In view of this opinion, our government will, in accordance with the terms of the protocol, institute inquiry and adopt proceedings against the Virginius and against any of the persons who may appear to have been guilty of illegal acts in connection therewith, which has proven to the satisfaction of the United States, according to the Attorney General's opinion that the Virginius was at the time of her capture carrying the United States flag without right, and improperly, the salute to the flag on the 25th day of December will be dispensed with as now not necessarily required, but the United States will expect a disclaimer of an intent of indignity to its flag in the act which was committed. From the proof submitted by Spain, it appears that the clearance papers of the Virginius were obtained by perjury.

SPAIN AND GREAT BRITAIN.

The Department of State has no information concerning the complications between Great Britain and Spain.

THE BANKRUPT LAW IN THE SENATE.

A majority of the Senate are not in favor of the total repeal of the bankruptcy act, but of amending it in such particulars as will guard the debtor from the actions of a small minority of his creditors, leaving the question of involuntary bankruptcy to be determined by those more largely interested.

REVISING THE ESTIMATES.

The several executive departments of the government will next week begin the work of revising the estimates for the current fiscal year. The estimates for work upon public buildings, erection of light-houses, improvement of rivers, harbors and fortifications, will be extensively cut down. The expenses of the War Department proper cannot be reduced.

Back Pay—The Course of the Two Political Parties—The Proposition Now Under Consideration—The Views of the Minority—Views of Wilson, Conkling and Dawes—The Pitsburgh Members in Pursuit of Notoriety—The Democrats Insatiable—The Senate on Back Pay—The Report of Director of the Mint—Interesting Coin and Bullion Statistics—Gold as a Standard—Its Adoption by the Principal Nations—Depreciation of Silver—Adoption of the Gold Standard in the United States—The International Movement—The Gold Product—Resumption—The Trade Dollar.

Special Correspondence of the Pittsburgh Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 18, 1873.

The increased and back-pay discussions have afforded an opportunity for the American people to judge of the two political parties in juxtaposition. The Republican members appreciating the public sentiment against the obnoxious act have set about its repeal, and though the personal views of some approve of higher salaries on principle, there is a universal desire to bow before the popular will. Not so with the Democracy. Their inherited greed and appetites sharpened by long exclusion from power, must strike the people as a fine specimen of what they might expect, were they to impose upon themselves the calamity of such a party.

In the House Mr. Hale, from the Special Committee appointed to consider the salary question, after considering the multitude of bills and resolutions, introduced the bill to repeal the increase of certain salaries, and to cover undrawn and returned balance into the treasury. This includes the repeal of so much of the act of March 3d, 1873, as prescribes and fixes the rate of compensation of the Vice President and members of Congress, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, of Senators, Representatives and Delegates in Congress. The second section provides for actual individual traveling expenses from their respective business. The constitutional restraint applies to the salaries of the President of the United States, during his present term of office, and to the Justices of the Supreme Court. Mr. Hale, from the committee, presented a report in which it was recommended to make the effect of the bill, retroactive as far as March 4th last. He says that the President has much the largest increase of salary, but deems it proper in view of the necessary continuance of the increase salary, during the present term to reduce the incidental allowances of the Executive office as far as compatible with the care and safety of the public property. The accompanying bill repeals the increase of all salaries, with the exceptions stated, and restores the former allowances except the franking privilege. In the case of the President it provides that during the present official term no additional salary shall be made to the civil officers, attendants or employees at the Executive Mansion and grounds, except for secretaries, clerks, stewards and employees on the grounds. The debate on the subject has elicited a curious complication of opinions. Mr. Wilson, of Indiana, indulges in a carefully prepared historical review of the question, and shows how salaries have increased the salaries, and each time dated the increase back to the beginning of the Congress, and successively to the organization of the people. Mr. Davies takes the financial view, stating that the proposition to impose an annual burden of $2,500,000 upon the treasury was inopportune and unwise. The revenues of the country for the very quarter in which that action was taken had fallen off $8,500,000, and the expenses had increased in about the same proportion. To-day, he said, we meet a deficit of three times that amount in the revenues, of the country, while there is more than a corresponding increase in the estimates of expenditures for the coming year. He favored, if at all, beginning by increasing the salaries of officers upon whose responsibility and integrity the revenues depended, but it was bad taste for the party elected on the ground of economy to have commenced with such a measure. The Pittsburgh member persistently annoyed the House with interruptions, exhibiting an excess of solicitude in the matter of returning back pay. It would seem that he desired to impress his existence upon the House, even if it were in a characteristically small way.

The Democrats have been exceedingly unfortunate in their choice of issues. Stephens, who elicited considerable curiosity, took a flaming view and went in for wholesale repudiation. He favored $100,000 for the President and $50,000 for the Chief Justices, and others in proportion.

The restoration of the pay and allowances, exclusive of the franking privilege, seems assured by the tone of the speeches in the House, at least.

In the Senate Mr. Wright, of Iowa, said that at a convention of Iowa Republicans in June last, it was unanimously resolved and demanded that the provisions of the late act of Congress, by which salaries were increased shall be promptly and unconditionally repealed. Not less than one hundred conventions of the Representative and Senatorial districts of the State had passed like resolves, and he knew he should do all in his power to bring about the wishes of his constituents.

The action of the Senate is not quite so clear as in the House. That is a very independent body and would not think it a grave offense to reject the House bill, or at least to allow it to remain in the little committee drawer, to slumber. There will be some heavy talking on the measure if it ever comes up. A number of Senators have already commenced to prepare their views.

The first report of the Director of the Mint, by the second section of the Coinage act of 1873 entrusted with the general supervision of all mints and assay offices, gives a great deal of interesting information respecting the amount of gold and silver deposits and purchases, coins struck and stamped, and bars manufactured during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1873.

The total deposits received and operated upon were $72,224,818 88, of which $30,937,420 45 were gold and $12,317,398 43 silver. Deducting redeposits, bars made and issued by one institution and deposited at another, the net amount was, gold, $27,704,380 88; silver, $9,145,328 43; total, $36,849,744 31. This is an excess of $19,892,762 22 over last year in gold deposit. The value of the coinage for the year was $38,689,183, and bars $27,617,530 61. The earnings were $367,249 57, and expenditures $1,053,458 21.

Gold being less variable than silver and of superior value, has been adopted as the standard by all countries which have reformed their monetary laws during the last four years. The list embraces the United States of America, Germany, Denmark, Sweden and Norway and Japan. Great Britain adopted it in 1816, France, Belgium, Italy and Switzerland still retain the Latin monetary system, having a double standard representing in silver by one denomination and of full-valued and unlimited legal-tender coin, the five-franc piece, all other silver coins being overvalued or subsidiary, and of limited tender. Since this was adopted the relative market value of silver has declined 16¼ to 1. Holland is about to change from silver to gold, being forced to such action by the depreciation of silver and the consequent advance in the rate of exchange on countries of the gold standard. The same argument will speedily bring the silver standard countries to the gold standard. The United States prepared for the adoption of the gold standard in 1853 by demonetizing all silver coins of less denomination than the dollar. All silver coin, being undervalued by the reduction of the gold coinage in 1834, was melted down or exported as fast as coined, and thus left the way clear for the adoption, without any embarrassment whatever, of the gold standard in 1873. India has for many years been the principal market for silver, its circulation now being equal to a thousand millions of dollars. In the last ten years the demand has fallen off, the decline being due chiefly to the fall in the price of cotton. The large production of the mines of the United States and Mexico in connection with other facts assures the wisdom of Congress in adopting the gold standard. The subject of international coinages continues to be agitated, but no material progress has been made in the assimilation of the principal coinages of the world. The adoption of the gold standard will be followed by an increase in the value of gold. Germany will soon have substituted three hundred millions of gold for silver, and Denmark and Sweeden and Norway will require nearly as much more. The mines of the world produce annually about one hundred millions of gold. The consumption of gold in the arts amounts to twenty-five millions per annum.

On speaking of the amount of coin in the country the reporter says that the coin, except as to the Pacific coast States and Territories, being as a general thing in the Treasury and banks, from the data thus presented it is estimated that the gold coin is $135,000,000 and subsidiary silver $6,000,000, total $140,000,000. The silver coin is principally in circulation in California, Nevada, Oregon, Idaho, Arizona and Texas. The increase to the stock of coin in this country has been at a very fair rate since April, 1873, and the indications the director thinks are that although there may be occasional exportations, it will gradually go on till an amount sufficient to enable the country to safely resume specie payments be reached.

The trade dollar of silver is designed expressly for exports, as bullion value is 88 per cent. in excess of the subsidiary silver coin. The issue of the trade-dollar was in July, 1873, to some extent to China and Japan; no account has as yet been received of its reception there.

DEB. R. K.

NEW YORK.

NEW YORK, December 20, 1873.

ORIENTAL TOPOGRAPHICAL EXPEDITION.

The first section of the Oriental expedition of the topographical corps sailed to-day for Egypt, with Prof. James Strong in charge. He will be joined by Geo. May Howell and assistants at the mouth of the Nile in March, and proceed through Sinai, Moab, Bashal, Central and Western Palestine, Syria Moore and Greece, and in the same month, the third section will leave from this country.

TAMMANY CANNOT CONCEAL ITS JOY.

The Tammany Hall general committee, in session to-night, adopted a resolution congratulating the people on the conviction of members of the late ring, and saying that the jusices, jurors and attorneys who have been thus faithful to society, are entitled to the gratitude of all good and honest citizens.

SALE OF PACIFIC AND ATLANTIC TELEGRAPH.

It is now stated authoritatively that the transfer of the Pacific and Atlantic Telegraph Company to the Western Union, was completed yesterday, with its five thousand miles of line and ten thousand miles of wire, by the following terms of lease: The Western Union which already owns three-fourths of the stock, is to pay four per cent. per annum on the whole capital of two million dollars.

FRAUDS IN BROOKLYN CORONER'S OFFICE.

It is reported that frauds have been discovered in the Coroner's office of Brooklyn, and that large numbers of fictitious inquests have been made, the inquisition papers being made out on physician's certificates and charged for as if inquests had been held on bodies, furthermore that within three years six hundred and twenty-three bogus cases of small-pox have been charged for.

NEW YORK, December 21, 1873.

HUNTING DOWN THE RING.

The sureties of ex-Alderman Comen, ex-Senator Norton and John H. Walsh, commissioners for building the new court house, were yesterday notified to produce the accused in court to-morrow. Coman could not be found last night.

THE WEATHER.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 22d, 1 A. M.

PROBABILITIES.

For New England and the Middle Atlantic States generally clear weather, with continued low temperature, will prevail during the day, followed by increasing cloudiness and rising temperature in the Middle States. For the Lake region increasing cloudiness, with areas of snow, the winds in these districts gradually backing to southerly, with increasing force and less pressure. For the South Atlantic States, north of Florida, continued cool and generally clear weather, with northerly to easterly winds and falling barometer. For the Ohio valley and Tennessee, occasionally brisk northeasterly to southeasterly winds, lower temperature and rain, especially on the gulf coast. For the Ohio valley less pressure, a slight rise of temperature, northeasterly to southeasterly winds and partly cloudy weather during Monday, followed by threatening weather by Monday night. For the northwest partly cloudy weather, with rising temperature and snow in the northern portion of the district. For the canal regions of New York, Pennsylvania and Ohio, the temperature will remain below freezing point during Monday.

MONEY TO LOAN.

WANTED—TO LOAN—$1,000, $2,000, $2,000, $5,000 and $10,000 on one Pittsburgh and two Allegheny Properties. apply to J. MESS. DRAPE & CO., 47½ Federal street, Allegheny.

FOR SALE.

FOR SALE—RUBBER BELTING AND HOSE—Second-hand Rubber Belting and Hose of all sizes and descriptions. Also, Gum Packing at Eastern Prices. HARTLEY, MCKEE & CO., 56 Second street.

FOR SALE—SECOND-HAND MACHINERY.—One 24 inch Rogers Surfacer, 1 No. 1 Ball Moulding Machine, three Saws, one 114 inch and one 100 inch Feather, all in good order. M. S. GOEHRAN & CO., 121 Liberty street.

FOR SALE—ENGINES AND BOILERS—New and Second-hand, of all sizes, Stationary and Portable, from 4 to 60 horse power, now on hand. JAMES ROSS & CO., corner Marion avenue and 7th street, Allegheny.

ELECTION NOTICES.

GERMAN NATIONAL BANK—The Annual Election for the Directors to serve for the ensuing year, will be held at the Banking House, on TUESDAY, January 13th, 1874, between the hours of 10 A. M. and 2 P. M.

Pittsburgh, December 22, 1873. JOS. LAURENT, Cashier.

FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF BIRMINGHAM—The Annual Election for Directors of this Bank, to serve for the ensuing year, will be held at the Banking House, on TUESDAY, January 13th, 1874, between the hours of 10 A. M. and 2 P. M.

Pittsburgh, December 12, 1873. JOHN P. BERGH, Cashier.

ELECTION NOTICE—PEOPLES' NATIONAL BANK—The Annual Election for Eleven Directors to serve for the ensuing year, will be held at the Banking House, on TUESDAY, January 13, 1874, between the hours of 10 A. M. and 2 P. M.

Pittsburgh, December 13, 1873. W. GORDON, Cashier.

ALLEGHENY NATIONAL BANK—An Election of Directors to serve during the ensuing year, will be held at the Banking House, on TUESDAY, January 13th, 1874, from 10 to 12 A. M.

Pittsburgh, December 13, 1873. W. McCANDLESS, Cashier.

TRADESMENS' NATIONAL BANK—The Annual Election for Directors of this Bank will be held at the Banking House, on TUESDAY, January 13th, 1874, between the hours of 11 A. M. and 1 P. M.

Pittsburgh, December 13, 1873. CYRUS CLARKE, JR., Cashier.

FIRST NATIONAL BANK, ALLEGHENY—The Annual Election for Directors of this Bank, will be held at the Banking House, on TUESDAY, the 13th day of January, 1874, between the hours of 10 A. M. and 1 P. M.

Pittsburgh, December 12, 1873. J. P. CLARKE

The Daily Commercial.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1873.

THE vote for State Senators, in New York, at the late election, shows a Republican majority in the vote of the whole State, of 28,208.

THE salary bill, as amended by the Senate Committee, is much better than the House bill. We hope the Senate will pass it in its amended form, and thus compel the House to face the music.

BEN BUTLER gauges the force of the press, in its attacks on the back-paysters, as being of "fifty jackass power." He is familiar with jackass power, is BEN, and measures all other power by his own.

THE course which Congress has thus far pursued with regard to the back-pay question is not altogether satisfactory. What the people look for, and have a right to expect, is reparation—not compromise.

AN ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. The small-pox is reported to be raging with great severity in Cleveland, Buffalo, and other places, and it is hardly to be expected that our own city will wholly escape visitation from the scourge. It is time for vaccinatory precautions to be taken.

CERTAIN well-meaning citizens have petitioned Congress praying that the 12th day of February, the birthday of ABRAHAM LINCOLN, be declared a National holiday. A better method of honoring the great dead, however, may be found in trying to emulate his exalted nobleness of life and character.

THE commendations bestowed upon the Senate for defeating the House resolution to adjourn over the holidays were premature, that body having finally yielded to the pressure in favor of adjournment. The promise of better things, for some time held out by the Senate, was too good to last.

THE Governor has issued the annual proclamation required by law, as to the amount of State debt cancelled during the fiscal year ending November 30, 1873, and it sets forth that the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund have, within that period, redeemed and cancelled State bonds amounting to $1,504,672.

SOME reports have gotten abroad attributing to Professor AGASSIZ, before his death, the words, *c'est le fin*, and suggesting the inference of disbelief in a future existence. The story is an entire fiction, so far as Professor AGASSIZ was concerned, and rests upon a radical misconception of his opinions on that subject.

ADVICES from Washington are to the effect that the House of Representatives is almost equally divided on the question of inflation. The canal jobs are not as strong as has been supposed. Individual members have their pet projects, but each man dislikes to vote for the scheme proposed by his neighbor. A good deal of heavy log-rolling will be necessary to give any of them a chance at present.

AS SOON as Congress reassembles, the House ought at once to concur in the step taken by the Senate in repealing the law authorizing the public printer to issue several thousands of extra copies of annual reports, without waiting for orders from Congress. In no other country than this are such documents distributed gratuitously at all, the prevailing custom being to furnish them to all applicants at cost.

IS DEMOCRACY organized Tweedism? According to the State Aduitor, Democratic Kentucky has lost over half a million of dollars by defaulting sheriffs, while the report of an investigation in the strongest Democratic county in Ohio, just concluded, closes with this suggestive observation: "Thus far, it will be seen that every officer in Butler county whose books I have examined, proves to be a defaulter."

THE House debate on the Civil Rights bill shows that the Democracy are afflicted with negrophobia quite as badly as ever. BECK, of Kentucky, who is said to be one of the ablest men in the party, deliberately charged that the object of the Republicans in passing the bill was to create a revolution in the South, so as to put it under bayonet rule again. For his sake it is to be hoped the fool-killer is not in Washington just at present.

ACCORDING to our telegraphic dispatches received from time to time from New York, the seat of government for the Cuban insurgents has been established in that city, the Cuban Junta of New York having deposed CESPEDES from the Presidency and named his successor. This is the government to which our own is asked to concede belligerent rights; and it must be acknowledged in its behalf that it keeps itself remarkably far from danger.

HON. ROBERT S. HALE, a member of Congress from New York, who scolded the back-pay members fearfully, and was brought to grief by the revelation that he had accepted double pay as Congressman and as a member of a Commission appointed by the President, has just been appointed by GOV. DIX a member of the Court of Appeals, in place of Judge PECKHAM, lost on the Ville du Havre. He has thus a splendid opportunity for getting away from his tormentors in the House.

THE cotton planters in various parts of the South are entering into written obligations to reduce the amount of land devoted to next year's cotton crop by at least one-third, in order to secure better prices for the cotton raised and a better supply of provisions. Throughout the interior of Louisiana and neighboring States provisions are scarce and high, while cotton is too low to pay the cost of production. Such a condition of things cannot, of course, be maintained. The movement is a wise one.

THE trial of ex-Mayor HALL, of New York, for alleged implication in the "ring" frauds, will begin to-day. It is asserted on trustworthy authority that the County Auditor under TWEED's regime has turned State's evidence, and is prepared to furnish all missing links in the chain of testimony against HALL and other persons accused of fraud; and that his confession will be especially valuable as giving information regarding the division of the plunder. HALL is a Democrat.

"HON. HENRY W. GENEE" (we give him his full title), just convicted in New York as a participant in the "ring" frauds and for cheating the city in the erection of the Harlem court house, was elected last November as one of the regular candidates of the Democratic party for Assembly. His real character was as well understood then as now. His district is strongly Democratic, and he was elected by an overwhelming majority. His term of service, notwithstanding his election, will be spent in the penitentiary, and not in the Legislature.

THE action of the House on the Salary bill does not satisfy any one outside of Washington. It is justly regarded as an evasion of the duty incumbent on Congress to restore salaries as they were, and the country will not rest satisfied with anything short of that. The members of the House may as well understand, first as last, that the trick of substituting a bill which gives them $6,000 a year for one that gave them only $5,000, is understood by the people. No one is deceived by it, and the members who have tried the hoodwinking game had better give it up, when the Senate gives them a chance.

A DESIRE has of late been frequently expressed among the scientific men of the country for the formation of a national association to take into consideration the various questions connected with meteorological reforms, to spread information in regard to these among the people, and concentrate efforts towards the accomplishment of such practical measures of improvement as, upon full deliberation, it may seem judicious to attempt. The initial steps toward the organization of such an association have now been taken, and a convention of persons interested in the subject has been called to meet in New York on the 30th of the present month.

THE quarrel between JOHN MORRISSEY, of Tammany Hall, and OLIVER CHARLICK, one of the Police Commissioners of New York, has resulted in a raid of the police upon the gambling saloons of that city, and the dispersion of the gamblers to the four winds. The Rochester *Democrat*, in view of this wide dispersion, pertinently reminds the public that the stranger who wears a glossy hat exactly straight upon his head, whose kid gloves are beyond a suspicion of soil or stain, whose boots are always nicely blackened and whose general appearance is thoroughly respectable, is not necessarily a minister or a member of Congress.

A YEAR OR SO ago there was a great stir in the oil regions over a new transportation scheme, which was to rescue shippers of petroleum from the grasp of the monopolists, and give them equitable rates of carriage to the Eastern seaboard. Meetings were held, money subscribed, the Oil Producers' Railroad Company organized, and surveys made. The interest in the project decreased materially, and it was allowed to languish. Then the financial troubles came, and put an end to it. Last week, at a meeting of the stockholders, held in Titusville, it was voted to dissolve the company, and return the unexpended balance to those from whom it came. This hasn't been a very good year for new railway schemes, and some of the old ones have fared badly.

THE new York Custom House returns for November, just published, show a very encouraging decline in our imports and increase in our export trade; while for the eleven months of the year there has been a falling off of $29,132,366, as compared with the corresponding period of 1872. The exports for last month amounted, in round numbers, to $31,000,000, an increase of $2,552,000 as compared with the corresponding month last year, and of $9,684,000 in 1871. In exports of domestic produce there is a gratifying increase of $5,000,000 as compared with November, 1872. The exports for the eleven months ending November 30, 1873, amount to a total, in round numbers, of $321,000,000, an increase of $38,000,000, as compared with last year, and of $45,000,000 in 1871. The gain, exclusive of specie, in produce exports, during the last eleven months, is no less than $56,000,000, as compared with the corresponding periods in 1872-71. Returns from all the other ports would no doubt show corresponding averages both in imports and exports, with a probability of a still more substantial advance in exports, owing to the increased activity in Boston, Philadelphia, Baltimore and other seaboard cities. The year is closing with bright prospects.

THE Ways and Means Committee do not seem anxious to father the idea of increased taxation; and yet, heavily as they are at present burdened, the people would unquestionably prefer a slight increase of taxation to any increase of debt. The Commissioner of Internal Revenue, however, is represented as saying that the government receipts in his department are now as large as they were before the panic, and as believing that they will exceed the estimate by three or four million dollars by the end of the fiscal year. If this opinion should prove correct, it will take $25,000,000 to $28,000,000 from Secretary RICHARDSON's estimated deficit of $42,000,000, while the remainder will be still further reduced by the increase in import duties which is reasonably looked for. For these reasons the committe conclude that, at the outside figure, the deficit will notexceed $15,000,000, and hence they are disposed to move cautiously in legislating new taxes upon the people. Some additional increase will however, most probably prove necessary; and there are modes of taxation, should Congress be wise enough to discern them, which are neither onerous nor obnoxious.

THE *Financial Chronicle* notes the existence of two wholesome features in the money market. The first has to do with the bank currency; the other with the bank reserves. As to the bank notes, they have been accumulating in New York in considerable amounts during the past month, but they are no longer in so plentiful supply as to overload the banks or disturb the monetary movements. Week before last orders for currency were supplied at one-eighth per cent. discount, while at present the price is par. A considerable aggregate of currency has been sent to the South and West to move the crops. A large sum is also being quietly absorbed by the savings banks, which, with much prudence, have been strengthening themselves against the apprehended contingency of a hard winter. There has been a notable improvement in the reserves. The New York banks now hold over forty-five millions of greenbacks. Good reserves generally indicate sound business; and this assiduity of the banks in strengthening themselves is a favorable augury.

THIS Cuban expedition business is too expensive a luxury to be indulged in by a nation as heavily taxed as ours. The Virginius difficulty has cost us fully five millions of dollars; and it now seems that there is another vessel lying at Baltimore, which has made several filibustering voyages to Cuba, and is preparing to make another for the purpose of conveying arms and other military stores for the use of the insurgents of that island. It is not to be doubted that the United States authorities have been informed both of the purpose of the enterprise and the parties who are responsible for this new attempt to invade the territory of a friendly nation, and embroil us in further trouble; and it is to be hoped that the government will do all it lawfully can to prevent them from carrying out their predatory designs.

ONE noticeable fact in connection with the salary-grab debate is that nearly all the members who have had the effrontery to defend the grab are Democrats. Guilty as some of the Republican members are in connection with the salary increase, very few attempt now to defend their conduct, or to oppose the evident desire of the people on the subject. This is not the case with a large number of the Democratic members. They have over and over again declared that they shall oppose repeal at every stage, and if, finally, both Houses fail to reduce the salary, it will be owing greatly to the fact that so many opposition members vehemently favor the retention of the present pay.

RETRENCHMENT INSTEAD OF TAXATION.

The theory of Mr. DAWES, the Chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means, that it is better to cut down our expenditures to the level of our income, than to attempt to increase the latter by the imposition of new taxes or the revival of old ones, is the correct one, if it be practicable. Whether the country is prosperous or unfortunate, the government must still go on, and its unavoidable expenses must be met. The interest on our debt must be promptly paid, and all the needed machinery of government kept steadily in motion, no matter how the imports may fall off and the revenue be curtailed; and the practical question of the hour is, can all this be done with the revenues we seem tolerably certain of receiving?

Mr. DAWES says it *can* be done. Perhaps he is over-sanguine, either as to the probable revenue of the year, or as to the reductions in the estimates that are likely to be made; but if he be anything near right in his figures, the policy he proposes is, beyond all question, the proper one.

We confess that, looking at the weekly tables of imports and revenue received at New York, our faith in the ability of the government to raise enough money from present sources of taxation to carry on the government is not very strong. When, week after week, the imports of dry goods at New York dwindle below a million, where they used to run to three and five millions weekly, and the revenue from customs falls off from $3,000,000 a week to $1,500,000, it seems an impossibility to make both ends meet. For, be it remembered, this is not a mere temporary falling off in the national income. It has continued for months, and is still continuing unabated.

That the estimates should be cut down, and with an unsparing hand, we admit; but after that relentless knife of Mr. DAWES has cut off every superfluous item of expenditures, there will, we fear, be more left than the revenue of the current year will be able to care for. Mr. BUTLER struck the right note, in this matter, when he remarked that this is a constantly growing country, and its government must daily grow more and more expensive. Not from extravagance, or recklessness, or carelessness; but necessarily, and in the very nature of the case. There are expenses which cannot be avoided, under any circumstances; and when Congress has confined itself to these, exclusively, in its appropriations, it will find, we fear, that the total of the budget will largely outrun the estimates.

That, however, is a fact to be settled by careful examination and inquiry. It will be time enough to think of imposing new taxes when it is demonstrated that that duty cannot be avoided. In the meantime, the work of cutting down the estimates must go on as ruthlessly as if secretaries of departments and heads of bureaux had no feelings to be taken into account. The Postal Savings Bank scheme and the Postal Telegraph of the Postmaster General, must both be strangled; the work on new public buildings must be cut down to the smallest possible limit; all unnecessary and superfluous offices must be abolished; the river and harbor appropriations must be reduced; and generally, Uncle Sam must act like the prudent commander of a vessel in a storm, and take in all sail. When the necessity for increased taxation becomes absolute and unavoidable, it will be borne, and cheerfully; but it will not be endured until that necessity is made plain.

THE CHORPENNING CLAIM.

MR. CESSNA made an effort, on Friday last, to get the Chorpenning claim again before Congress; but the temper of the House seems to have been so ominous and forbidding that he took counsel from prudence and withdrew the papers, after presenting them. CHORPENNING, the holder of this claim, lives in Somerset county, and being a constituent of Mr. CESSNA, it is all right that that gentleman should present the case here in the case, as well as avail himself of the chance to put himself right on the record, but beyond rendering this proper service to a citizen of his district, the less Mr. CESSNA has to do with this claim the better for himself. Let Mr. CHORPENNING be heard, by all means. That is his right, as well as every man's. But the claim is odorous, beyond all question; and the odor that hangs about it is not that of sanctity.

The immaculate Judge BLACK is, or was, the attorney for this claim. No man in Pennsylvania has indulged more freely than he in denouncing corruption in the Legislature and elsewhere throughout the State; yet he seems zealous in promoting the fishy claims of this client of his. In the Congress before the last the claim was examined thoroughly, and when its character was exposed it was fairly hooted out of the House. It is a delightful thing to know that we have such pure men and such earnest haters of corruption in this State as Judge BLACK; but our appreciation of his efforts in that direction is somewhat modified when we picture him as hanging about the corridors of the House, bestirring members with arguments in behalf of CHORPENNING and his claim.

We have a fancy, from the tone of the remarks of Mr. DAWES and Mr. BECK on this claim, that a present resurrection of it will not do much good to the claimant; and our advice to Mr. CESSNA, while seeing that his constituent has fair play, is to keep his hands clear of advocating it. Mr. CHORPENNING has his attorney; let him handle the pitch, if he will.

BUILDING ASSOCIATIONS.

What Rate of Interest Do They Pay and Charge?

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

My attention has but recently been called to an extract from the Baltimore *American*, published in the COMMERCIAL of November 19th, referring to Judge Pinckney's remarks and figures upon the excessive rate of interest paid by a borrower from a Baltimore building association. I have also read a letter, published by you on November 21st, from your correspondent "D." who evidently regards the extract in question as "calculated to do much mischief in creating distrust in the minds of members of building associations." Will you kindly allow me the necessary space in the COMMERCIAL for a few remarks and figures upon the rate of interest realized and paid respectively by lenders to, and borrowers from, building associations, as I *think* I am somewhat "acquainted with the method of such associations," and yet "the statements you print" in said extract do not "excite a contemptuous smile" from me, and I certainly do not deem such statements "so ridiculous," or that "the figures published by you are (so) grossly incorrect," as Mr. D seems to think they are.

The Baltimore borrower received a cash loan of $2,700, for which and interest thereon he agreed to pay $11 16 per week for *ten* years. The rate of interest paid by such borrower, Mr. D. states, "will be found to be eight per cent., a moderate rate surely." Now if Mr. D. means by this, that the eight per cent. is charged or paid on the amount (or balance) of principal *actually* owing from time to time of each payment made on account of the loan, then indeed I think all your readers will agree that it was "a moderate rate." But such is not the case.

If these building associations are run on the *equitable* principle that is claimed for them by their advocates and those in interest, I submit that the borrowers therefrom should only pay interest on the amount *actually owing* by them. This principle being admitted, I think that even Mr. D will agree with me when I state, that a weekly increasing proportion of each $11 16 paid should be credited in liquidation of the principal, and, consequently, that of each $11 16 paid the proportion chargeable for interest should be as frequently decreased.

Although the borrower in the above case paid $5,803 20, for the $2,700 and interest in weekly instalments of $11 16 each, spread over ten years, we shall get at the truth sufficiently near for our practical purpose, by dividing said $5,803 20 into 120 instalments of $48 36 each, and by considering them as paid at the *end* of each calendar month. Now by discounting $48 36 per month, for 120 months, at the rate of 1½ per cent. per month, we shall find their present worth to be $2,853 90, only $16 10 *less* that the $2,700 *actually* received by the borrower. In other words, if said borrower had only received $2,683 90, instead of $2,700, and had paid $48 36 at the *end* of each month of the ten years, he would have paid interest, during the whole term, at the rate of 18 per cent. per annum, on the amount (or balance) of the principal actually owing by him from the *beginning* of each month. Whether the 18 per cent. interest thus shown to have been paid by the Baltimore borrower is a less rate than "that charged by banks and brokers," can be regarded as "a moderate rate," I shall leave your readers to determine. I rather think, however, that some of them would be inclined to ask Mr. D. "how is the rate for high?"

But Mr. D. says that the borrower "shares in the profit which that interest produces." We have yet to learn, however, that the Baltimore borrower received any more than the $2,700 for the $5,803 20, which it is shown he paid; nor can we conceive how he ever could receive anything more, for, as we understand Mr. D's explanation of the principle of building associations, the stockholders—investors and borrowers alike—have to continue paying their weekly instalments until "every shareholder is paid in full and the association expires."

Perhaps, however, (as Mr. D. suggests) "the Baltimore building association spoken of is a fraudulent concern, and is not conducted on building association principles." Well, Mr. D., let us examine into the case, instated by yourself, at the close of your letter. You state that a borrower receives a loan of $500 for which he pays $875, by instalments during *seven* years. Let us, as in the Baltimore case, suppose the instalments to be paid at the *end* of each month, and divide the $875 by 84, when $10 413 will appear as the amount of each instalment; then let us discount each $10 413 at the rate of *one* per cent. per week, for eighty-four months, and we shall find their present value to be $500 00, only $9 91 *less* than the $500 loaned. Now, unless you can show that our borrower received something more than $500 for the $875 paid by him, I think the readers of the COMMERCIAL will coincide with me that he paid nearer twelve per cent. per annum, than "about six and one-half per cent. per annum," as you state.

By the way, Mr. D., am I to conclude that, as your borrower only paid $445, during seven years, for his ten *five*-shares of $500 each, you or any other stockholder, in the same series of stock, only paid $91 dues, *any* instalments of $1 083 at the *end* of each month, for each $500 received at the end of the seven years? If so, may I ask you to state to the readers of the COMMERCIAL what rate of interest you realized on your monthly investment? Perhaps, however, I may tell them, and if I am wrong you can correct me. If you should receive $205 93 (only $5 93 more than $200) for the payment, by monthly instalments, of $91 during seven years, you would realize interest at the rate of twenty-one per cent. per annum, and compounded *monthly* too.

And now, Mr. D., allow me to ask you further, if the *average* rate of interest paid by your borrowers is only "about six and one-half per cent. per annum," how are the lenders to get *about* twenty-one per cent. per annum, as they must do if they receive $200, at the end of seven years, for $91 paid in by monthly instalments during that time? I take it that there are only two classes of members in your building association, *i. e.*, lenders and borrowers; and that what one class receives in the shape of interest, the other class must pay, and *more* too, seeing that expenses and losses (if any) must be paid before dividends can be declared. As you state that your association's "expenses are trifling," and as I hope it never has any losses, I waive the consideration of these items, and give you the benefit of them, in the calculations that I have made for myself.

It is claimed for building associations that they are worked on the *mutual benefit* principle; that lenders and borrowers "share and share alike" in the profits, &c. If this be so, I should like to know how or why a lender should get more than $707 81 (instead of $1,000) for his $455 dues paid in during seven years, *that is*, if a borrower gets only $709 05, as the amount *justly* payable to him in advance, for the $875 paid in by him during a like period of time? I hope Mr. D. will kindly solve this problem.

I may say that I have no objection to any man paying any reasonable rate of interest that he intelligently understands and agrees to; but I fear that most of those persons who borrow from building associations, are unable "to calculate for themselves," what is the actual rate of interest they pay, by adding a premium of from twenty to sixty per cent., besides the legal interest on the whole amount of loan; hence the importance of these associations being compelled by law to state clearly, in the mortgage, &c., the actual rate of interest payable for the loan.

When I see such statements as are given in Mr. D.'s letter in order to show that only eight per cent. or about six and a half per cent. is charged for loans; and when I see a journal, published in the very hot-bed of building associations, and claiming to be their organ, stating, in reply to questions on the subject, that "it is conceded that building associations yield to shareholders from three to five times the profit of other stock investments," and then goes on to state that "six per cent. is the interest paid by the borrower, and as loans are paid by instalments, the advantage over borrowing outside is plainly demonstrated," I cannot say that such statements "excite a contemptuous smile;" but I do know that they are not only "grossly incorrect," but inconsistent with each other, and I do not like applying the ignorance or wickedness that can put forth such statements.

Having written the foregoing solely in the public interest, and not from any desire to have a newspaper controversy, and having sufficient faith in my statements to indorse them by signing my real name hereto, I must decline to answer any reply to this, unless such reply shall also be made over the writer's real name.

I enclose my card, with references, for your own information, and thanking you, Mr. Editor, for so much of your valuable space,

I am yours, &c., AMOS FAYBAM.

DETROIT, MICH., December 6, 1873.

THE "Mates" in the United States navy, who are obliged to pay for their own mess, purchase uniforms and keep up their position as becomes American officers, out of a salary of $700 a year, have petitioned Congress for an increase to $1,000. Gentlemen, it can't be done. There are a lot of fellows in Washington, now famishing on $6,000 a year and traveling expenses, who are ahead of you. We must retrench!

Our lighthouse system is more extensive than any in the world, the lights and beacons extending more than 10,000 miles along coast and shore. We have 521 lighthouses, 35 powerful signals operated by engines driven by steam or hot air, 354 day or unlighted beacons, and 2,838 buoys.

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

The "present" time is not far off.

They are having a great revival at Baltimore—a revival of ship-building. It goes on swimmingly.

Nothing like patience. Ex Senator Morton, of Louisiana, sends up to Congress for mileage due him in Congress twenty-five years ago.

Somebody has put upon the market a preparation for coloring the gums a delicate and beautiful pink. It is intended for ladies only, says the label—a bit of superfluous information, we think.

Meissonier's well-known picture, "The Three Friends," was lost in the Ville du Havre. It had been engraved, and was exhibited in Paris in 1848 and again in 1864. It was insured.

One of the most remarkable cases of resurrection on record, occurred at Salem, Mass., last week, where, at a centennial tea-party, "one of the few samples of the original tea that was *destroyed* in Boston harbor was exhibited." Wonder how it looked and tasted?

Some people are easily satisfied. A Kentucky paper speaks of a lady who had her arm amputated by two surgeons "in a manner creditable to the profession and *satisfactory to the patient*."

Two bushels of old Democratic papers fished out of a well in an Iowa town, have enabled the citizens to account for the water having tasted so much like lye.

Sir Samuel Baker says the value of a girl in Africa is two cows. Here the equivalent is sometimes a calf.

Washington Territory has it now—perpetual motion. The inventor has lots of motion, but no coin. Like all the rest of them.

Numbers of the small fresh water lakes in Michigan, are gradually drying up. Some of them are almost entirely divested of water.

Some fish. The estimated catch of salmon on the Columbia river, for exportation during the past season, was about 500,000, having a value of fully $1,000,000.

Buffalo is exercised over the swill milk question. The health physician's report for November, shows that over 50 per cent. of the deaths in that city, were children under ten years of age, and that a large portion of those children died from no other cause than the use of this milk.

Thirty-two of the leading citizens of Minneapolis, Minn., are under arrest for fast driving, among whom are three aldermen and the Mayor. A fast town must be Minneapolis.

A deed of real estate in Baltimore has just been set aside as fraudulent, it having been recorded only the day after a judgment rendered against the grantor, though made previously, and there being suspicious circumstances about the consideration.

Among the curiosities at Fort Yuma, Ari. zona, is a gigantic "prairie schooner" of twenty thousand pounds capacity. It is drawn by fourteen mules, the smallest of which is fifteen hands high, and weighs one thousand three hundred and fifty pounds.

The ocean ferry traffic increases astonishingly. Next summer from twelve to fifteen steamships will regularly leave New York on Saturdays for Europe, and half as many on Wednesdays. Some of the companies will dispatch two vessels on the same day, one for cabin passengers and another for steerage passengers and freight.

The Spanish civil war is affecting the supply of oranges in Europe.

The intellect of Japan is becoming thoroughly aroused. Discussions on almost every conceivable subject are going forward, and ideas of the most radical character are gradually coming to the surface.

The dry goods imports at New York for last week were $878,152, and the amount marketed $978,526. The imports for the corresponding period of last year were $1,909,748, and for 1871, $2,018,889.

There are no less than sixty candidates for the Kansas United States Senatorship, not including ex-Senator Pomeroy. Statesmen are thick out that way. Then there are other men who expect to be elected, but who are too modest to say so.

A book on the education of American women, of which a well-known female teacher is the editor, is about to be published. It will contain, besides important facts and statistics gathered from the leading American schools and universities where young women have been taught, the views and experiences of women who have given attention to the various branches of the subject.

The Memphis physicians propose to erect a suitable memorial to the medical heroes who fell in the discharge of duty during the fearful pestilence which scourged that city.

The son and heir of Oakes Ames has instituted proceedings in the United States court at New Orleans, to foreclose the first mortgage on the New Orleans, Mooile and Texas Railroad, which was sold to the trustees of the second mortgage last year.

The Boston Board of Underwriters has confirmed its Rating Committee's decision that buildings having Mansard roofs other than those wholly of iron or copper shall pay an additional one per cent.

The Baltimore *Sun* calls attention to the fact that in August and October of 1774, the people of Baltimore resisted the landing of tea at that port.

They are having an investigation in Chicago, too. There is a prospect that the taxpayers will lose some five hundred thousand dollars.

The failure of the Samana Bay Company, it is to be hoped, will prove the last of our wild adventures in the West Indies.

The coal mines of Colorado show remarkable development. The coal measures are found to cover almost the entire foot hills from the northern to the southern boundaries of the Territory, and to reach well out into the plains.

PERSONAL.

A Mr. Heath, of Hartford, Connecticut, has recently been engaged in hunting up President Grant's ancestral record, tracing it back to Matthew Grant, who came from England in the ship Mary and John, to Dorchester, Massachusetts, in 1630. From that date he traces it as follows: Matthew Grant removed to Connecticut in 1630, and with others formed the Windsor colony in 1631. He died there in 1681. Matthew married, in 1632, Priscilla, whose family name is not given. From Matthew the succession is traced through Samuel, his son; Samuel, Jr., son; Samuel, first, second, and third to Jesse Root Grant, of Pennsylvania, who removed to Ohio in his youth, where he married, in 1821, Hannah Simpson. His eldest son, Ulysses S. Grant, was born April 27, 1822, at Point Pleasant, Claremont county. To show that General Grant belongs to a military family, it may be said that his great-grandfather, Captain Noah, second, served in the expedition against Crown Point, in the year 1755, and he was killed there. The President's grandfather Noah, third, served with distinction in the Revolutionary war, among the volunteers from Connecticut, and in 1787 removed to Pennsylvania.

Prof. Richard A. Proctor, the English astronomer, pays a high tribute to American science and American colleges, and says he hopes his children may receive a part of their education in this country.

Mrs. Lincoln has written to a friend at Springfield, denying that Mr. Herndon had such conversations with President Lincoln as those alleged with relation to the latter's early history, etc. She says they are totally inconsistent with every word Mr. Lincoln ever uttered on the subject.

And now an old woman in the county of Durham, England, eighty-one years of age, of the name of Brigham, thinks that Brigham Young is her husband, who deserted her and their children and disappeared from England forty years ago. It appears that her husband Brigham was the natural son of a man named Young and a woman named Brigham that he was adopted by a man named Allen; that after the young man's marriage he proved to be the natural son of a devoted friend and father; that he worked for some time in London as a cooper under the name of William Brigham, and that he left London and his wife and children to join the Mormons in America. This man would be now in the seventy-sixth year of his age, and the ancient dame evidently believes that President Brigham Young, of the Latter Day Saints of Utah, is her long-lost husband.

Hon. W. N. Edwards, who died at his home in North Carolina the other day, was one of the men of the past. He was one of the oldest ex-Congressmen living, and he was President of the Secession Convention which took the State out of the Union in 1861. He was eighty years of age at the time of his death.

The London *Lancet* learns from authentic sources that mental anxiety and confinement are doing their untoward work on Marshal Bazaine, and that he now exhibits unmistakable evidence of impaired health. The Marshal is suffering from nearly continuous headache, with paroxysms of feverishness and cold sweats.

General Canby's widow has a good prospect of receiving deserved assistance. It is reported from Washington that the committee charged with the subject are in favor of giving her a pension of $2,000 per annum.

The story that Alexander Dumas, known for so many years in French literature as Dumas the Younger, is coming to America to give lectures, has been pronounced by himself entirely unfounded.

Did you ever hear of General William O. Butler? He was a candidate for the Vice Presidency years ago on the Cass ticket, and the other day he was chosen president of a county Bible society in Kentucky.

Caleb Cushing has accepted the invitation to deliver an address at the proposed National Convention of the Survivors of the Mexican war, to be held on January 15, at Willard's Hall, Washington.

STATE NEWS.

W. Lee Spotswood, D.D., has resigned the Presidency of Williamsport Dickinson Seminary.

St. Patrick's church, Harrisburg, is being remodeled.

Allentown overflows with apple-jack whisky just at present.

The capital stock of the new National bank at Boyertown, $50,000, has all been taken.

Mr. S. N. Delap, of New York, has bought property in Meadville, upon which he proposes to build a foundry.

Mary Harms, aged eight years, fell into a well, near Easton, on the 17th inst., and was drowned.

While washing dishes, Mrs. John Pethick, of Wayne county, fell dead on Tuesday.

John Haak, of Berks county, was killed a few days ago while working in a quarry, three tons of stone falling on him.

Lloyd's Altoona bank is expected to resume in a few days.

Five hundred pheasants have been shot within sight of Milford, Pike county.

The Corry body-snatching matter ended thus: The doctor skedaddled, his wife paid $50 to the county of Warren, paid the first funeral expenses, and re-buried the corpse.

Chestnut street, east of Broad street, Philadelphia, is to be paved with Belgian blocks.

Mr. D. W. Gross, of Harrisburg, has been elected President of Franklin and Marshall College, *vice* Hon. John Cessna, of Bedford.

Wm. B. Mann's libel suit against the Philadelphia *Age* has been withdrawn, the *Age* having made a public retraction.

Rabbits are twenty cents per pair in Allentown.

Less than three miles of the Wilmington and Reading Railroad remain to be completed between Birdsboro and Reading.

The heirs of William Penn get $25,000 yearly from the British government.

Lieutenant J. F. Moser, of Allentown, commands the ship which received the Virginius.

Three ladies died in Pike county last week whose aggregate ages reached 267 years.

Barney Campbell, of Wilkesbarre, has accepted the challenge of Arthur Chambers, of New York. They will fight for ring honors and a little cash at an early day.

Mrs. Bridget Harvey was struck by the cars at Harrisburg on Thursday and instantly killed. She was under the influence of rum at the time of the occurrence of the accident.

A Berks county farmer threshed one hundred and twenty-eight bushels of oats in four hours.

George Wenrich, for the killing of Dr. Wagonseller, in Snyder county, has been convicted of murder in the second degree, and sentenced to seven years and six months in the penitentiary.

A Lebanon county laborer has raised ten children on $1 50 per day, and preached twice a week for fifteen years at that, and for nothing.

On the 13th of November Isabella Bachman, aged sixteen years, left her home in Harrisburg. She wore a light sack, woolen cap, an old calico dress and worn out shoes. She has not been heard of since, and her mother fears she has been killed or drowned.

The Wilkesbarre city council has passed a law requiring all railroads crossing their streets to place flagmen at the intersections.

The Fruit Growers' Society of Pennsylvania will hold its fifteenth annual meeting at Chambersburg on the 21st, 22d and 23d of January next.

A daughter of Mr. John McDonald, of Tower City, Schuylkill county, aged three years, while playing in its father's house, on Tuesday, in the absence of the parents, fell in the fire and was horribly burned. The flesh hung in shreds, and the little sufferer lingered until the following day, when death put an end to her sufferings.

The freight business of the middle division of the Pennsylvania Railroad keeps up remarkably well. During the first half month of December 18,736 more cars passed Mifflin than in the whole of December, 1866, and up to the 16th of the present month 36,756 cars passed Mifflin East and West—only 11,222 less than passed the same point during the entire month of December, 1872. Heavy business.

William Gold, of Clarion county, aged eighty years, walked six miles, the other day, over a very rough road, without experiencing any great fatigue.

Willie Kirk, aged fourteen, looked into the barrel of a revolver, the other day, at Fairchance, Fayette county. The wounds in his face and neck will keep him in the house for a month or two.

That people of weak minds should keep away from fortune tellers, is shown by the following item from a Pottstown paper: Jacob Brunner, employed at the Monocacy furnace, Monocacy, Berks county, visited Reading some time ago to have his fortune told by some old hag in that city. The woman told him that his first prize would be a coffin, and in four weeks from that time he would die, and that in the meantime both he and his father would be robbed." The young man came home very much depressed in spirits, and relinquished his business to make preparations for the final dissolution, which he supposed was so near at hand. The matter so preyed upon his mind that he became insane, and is now a raving maniac.

The Phœnixville water works will cost $200,000.

Official Vote of Virginia Last November.

The complete official vote of Virginia, for Governor, on the 4th of November, has been published. The vote is given by Congressional districts, and compares with the vote for Congressmen, in 1872, as follows:

	1873 — Governor.		1872 — Congress	
Dist.	Cons.	Rep. Hughes.	Cons.	Adm
I....	12,625	9,789	10,314	10,687
II....	12,879	14,738	10,329	15,533
III....	14,202	12,402	12,514	13,081
IV....	10,265	15,012	8,063	15,39
V....	11,747	9,239	8,075	9,178
VI....	14,223	10,581	11,491	10,719
VII....	15,026	6,746	10,994	6,726
VIII....	12,981	8,569	11,782	9,178
IX....	15,461	6,202	10,352	5,724
Total...	130,738	98,499	99,729	95,907

By the above figures James L. Kemper's (Conservative) majority for Governor over Robert W. Hughes is 27,239—8,908 greater than Walker's (Conservative) majority for Governor in 1869. In 1869 the total vote for Governor was 229,778; this year it was 214,237, or 6,502 less than in 1869. The increase this year over the Conservative vote for Congressmen in 1872 is 27,069; the decrease in the Republican vote is 2,408.

Fiasco.

An Italian paper gives the following explanation of the origin of "fiasco:" There was a celebrated harlequin in the city of Florence by the name of Biancolelli, whose principal witticisms consisted in making a long harangue about any object he might hold in his hand at the time. Each evening he appeared in the ring with some new object, and round it he was known to twine the pele-mele of his satires, both spoken and sung. On one occasion, however, when holding a flask in his hand—which in Bergamo, the place of his nativity, is called "fiasco"—it seemed altogether beyond his art and skill to jovialize the audience; whereupon he furiously addressed his "fiasco" in these words: "It is in vain, O fiasco! that I am so stupid to-day. Get out of this," and he threw the flask behind him. The audience were amused and laughed, but the harlequin that evening made a total failure. Since then whenever an actor or a singer met with a similar fate, they said, it is like Biancolelli's "fiasco," and afterwards they were heard merely to say, "It is a fiasco." In this way the term became typical, and from the Italian passed over to other languages.

Pittsburgh Bank for Savings,

NO. 61 FOURTH AVENUE, PITTSBURGH.

ASSETS JANUARY 1, 1873....$778,251 56.

Chartered in 1862.

Open daily from 9 to 4 o'clock, and on SATURDAY EVENINGS, from May 1st to November 1st, 7 to 9 o'clock, and from November 1st to May 1st, 6 to 8 o'clock. Interest paid at the rate of Six Per Cent., computed from the 1st and 15th of each month, and if not withdrawn compounds semi-annually in January and July. Books of By-Laws, &c., furnished at the office.

BOARD OF MANAGERS:

GEO. A. BERRY, President.
JOHN SCOTT, JAS. PARK, Jr., Vice Presidents.
D. E. MCKINLEY, Secretary and Treasurer.
J. Bradley, A. L. Graham, A. B. Bell, Wm. K. Nimick, John S. Dilworth, P. Kahm, G. Pollmeister, Joshua Rhodes, R. H. Hartman, Robert C. Schmertz, Christopher Zug, John H. Bailey, Solicitor.

Real Estate Savings Bank,

[ESTABLISHED 1862.]

Cor. Fourth Ave. and Smithfield Street,

PITTSBURGH, PA.

ASSETS NOVEMBER 1, 1873.....$821,015 71
SURPLUS FUND..... 63,368 57

Six per Cent. Interest allowed on Deposits,

PAYABLE IN MAY AND NOVEMBER.

The charter of this Bank restricts the investment of Deposits to First Liens on Real Estate within the Commonwealth, or in United States and Pennsylvania State Bonds.

President—Isaac Jones.
Vice President—Jas. R. D. Meeds.
Secretary—Geo. H. Holtzman.
Solicitor—E. Bradford Todd.

TRUSTEES.

Isaac Jones, C. G. Hussey,
Hon. J. K. Moorhead, Jas. R. D. Meeds,

FINANCE AND TRADE.

SATURDAY EVENING, December 20, 1873.

The money market is working to-day with somewhat of its old spirit. Money among outside lenders appear in better supply and holders are not quite as captious as during the extreme stringency, it may be called a fair 1 per cent. market—the transactions being few as compared with times when business is more active. As the holidays fairly open the stores are crowded with eager buyers, as if there had been no panic, for happily the memory of hard times has not driven out all traditional expressions of good will incident to holy week, and it is well, although misfortune has laid its heavy hand on many a one, that their hearts are still green as the holly.

The New York *Bulletin*, in an able article, combats the idea that a redundant issue of bank notes debases the value of the currency. This idea seems to have been the leading one among those in favor of the Bank Act of 1844 which now controls the issues of the Bank of England.

No discrimination having been made between the two kinds of paper money, which differ radically in their nature, yet are scarcely ever distinguished from each other by the theorists, the one having a government issue of paper money, made a legal tender by authority of the government, and the other being bank notes issued at the demand of trade against undoubted securities and further guaranteed by the capital of the issuing bank. The first of these currencies represents only the power of the government to levy taxes and does not represent, as some hold, the total wealth developed and undeveloped of the country. The second of these currencies represents values held in trust by the issuing banks against which the holders can proceed by legal means. The first is issued to supply the wants and deficiencies of the issues, he nce generally represents labor and property wasted or destroyed by war or otherwise, whilst the other represents useful results sought by those willing to pay full value for it, which insures its redemption at full value and prevents its debasement.

Money, in this sense, is but an instrument of exchange, the amount that can be kept in circulation without depreciation, represents the total amount of the exchanges of the country, hence the value of the currency in circulation, to maintain a uniform standard, must vary with the demands of trade. An over issue of bank notes by the banks is impossible, as the interest paid for them must be a total loss to the borrower when not in use, hence the moment there is a greater amount of bank notes in circulation than there is demand for, the holders will return them to the issuing banks for redemption in order to save the interest on them.

A fixed amount of government paper least conforms to the important requirement that, to retain a uniformity in value, the quantity of the currency must vary in exact proportion to the exchanges effected by it, while the amount of bank notes, untrammelled by government control, wholly depends on the wants of those who need them. Legitimate traders will not pay a greater interest for the use of money than it will repay them, and those who borrow money for other purposes are sure not to be borrowers for any great length of time.

The author of "The Credit System" states that in 1837 the total circulation of the United States did not exceed $9 for each person, of which one-fourth was specie, whilst in England it was $28 per capita, of which one-third was specie, and points out the fact that after the crisis of that year the currency of France was equal to the production of the nation for 144 days; that of England to 110 days; that of the United States to twenty-three days, and that of New England to twenty-one days, which fact would refute the theory that the disasters of that year were caused by an over issue of bank notes.

The remedy seems to lie, not in limiting our bank note circulation, but in making it free as to amount and making it redeemable.

—The following table shows the prices of railway stocks, gold, etc., at the various sessions of the New York Stock Exchange, during the day. Furnished by Gold and Stock Telegraph Company, corner of Fourth avenue and Wood street:

December 20, 1873.	10:30 A.M.	11:30 A.M.	12:30 P.M.	1:30 P.M.	2:30 P.M.	3:30 P.M.
Gold	110¼	110⅛	110⅛	110	110⅛	110⅛
Canton	....	71¾	72¼	72¼	72¼	72¼
Western Union Tele'h	....	....	....	....	....	....
Pacific Mail	38	38⅛	38⅛	38⅛	38⅛	38⅛
Adams Express	....	....	....	....	....	....
Wells-Fargo Express	....	70	....	....	70	....
American Express	....	57⅝	....	....	58	....
United States Express	....	....	....	....	....	....
New York Central	95¾	95¾	95¾	....	95¾	....
Erie	....	....	....	....	....	....
Michigan Central	94⅝	94⅝	....	....	95	95
Michigan Southern	....	....	....	....	....	....
Lake Shore	....	99⅞	....	100	....	....
Cleveland & Pittsburgh	....	....	....	....	....	....
Chicago & Northwestern	64¾	64¾	....	65¾	....	65⅝
Do. preferred	....	88	....	....	....	....
Rock Island	....	97½	....	98	....	98¼
St. Paul	....	40¾	40¾	40¾	40¾	40¾
Do preferred	....	62½	....	62½	....	62½
Wabash	....	30¾	....	30¾	....	30¾
Do preferred	....	60	....	60	....	60½
Fort Wayne	....	92	....	92	....	92
Union Pacific	....	....	....	....	....	....
Chicago and Alton	....	100	....	101	....	....
Boston, Hartf'd and Erie	....	....	....	....	....	....
Harlem	....	121	122	122	....	120

* Ex. Div.

—The following are the quotations for Government and State bonds received by wire from New York to-day:

GOVERNMENTS.	Morn.	Noon.
1881, coupons	118¾	118¾
5-20s, 1862	112¾	112¾
5-20s, 1864	113	113
5-20s, 1865	114	113¾
5-20s, new	113¾	113¾
5-20s, 1867	117	117
5-20s, 1868	115¾	116
10-40s, coupons	110	110
10-40s, coupons	110¾	110¾
Currency 6s	122	122½
New 5s	103¾	103¾
STATE BONDS.		
Tennessees	—	80
Tennessees, new	—	80½
South Carolinas, July	—	11
" April	—	9
Missouri 6s	—	92¾

—Robinson & Co., bankers, Fourth avenue, furnish the following report of active stocks at the Philadelphia Board:

Penna. R. R.	44¾
Penna. Scrip	95¾
Reading	99¾
United Co's No. 1	116
Oil Creek	15
Lehigh Valley	58¾
A. V. R. R. 7-30	86¼
Pitts. Cin. & St. Louis R. R.	68

PRODUCE AND GENERAL MARKETS.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, SATURDAY, December 20, 1873.

The following are the entire receipts of the leading articles for this market, by river and rail, for the twenty-four hours ending to-day:

Flour, bbls	1,095	Wheat, sacks	160
Apples, bbls	42	Corn, sacks	388
Cheese, boxes	849	Barley, sacks	250
Butter, pkgs	18	Rye, sacks	147
Bacon, tcs	1,220	Oats, sacks	271

The increase in the volume of business, and the improved feeling, noted in our last report, did not hold to-day—owing to the bad condition of a number of our country roads, and the continued soft weather. The change to cold, frosty weather on Saturday night, will have a good effect with trade generally doing the next ten days. There has been nothing new developed in any of the departments of the market during the past twenty-four hours. In flour, grain, groceries, provisions, etc., the feeling is generally steady, and sales are steady.

The following tabular statement of the receipts of the principal articles, by river and rail, for the week ending December 13, 1873, will be found invaluable by our merchants and business men generally:

	Flour, bbls.	Apples, bbls.	Cheese, bxs.	Corn, sks.	Wheat, sks.	Barley, sks.	Rye, sks.	Oats, sks.	Butter, pkgs.	Bacon, pcs.
1873	7,102	1,042	5,102	2,100	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
1872	7,102	1,042	5,102	2,100	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
1871	7,102	1,042	5,102	2,100	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
1870	7,102	1,042	5,102	2,100	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
1869	7,102	1,042	5,102	2,100	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
1868	7,102	1,042	5,102	2,100	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
1867	7,102	1,042	5,102	2,100	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
1866	7,102	1,042	5,102	2,100	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
1865	7,102	1,042	5,102	2,100	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
1864	7,102	1,042	5,102	2,100	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
1863	7,102	1,042	5,102	2,100	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
1862	7,102	1,042	5,102	2,100	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
1861	7,102	1,042	5,102	2,100	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
1860	7,102	1,042	5,102	2,100	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000

The following will indicate the state of the market in detail, together with the latest quotations based upon actual sales:

APPLES—Although the arrivals have fallen off the supply is fully up to the demand, and prices are steady. Sales continue fair at from $1 50@2 50 per bbl for common and medium, and $3 @@3 50 for prime and choice.

APPLE BUTTER.—The demand continues fair for the season, and prices are steady. Sales at 6@6½c per gallon.

ASHES.—The market continues quiet, with but little doing. The demand is from the trade. We quote common, 3¾@4c; Refined, 5c; Pearl, 9c; Pearl, 10c; Arsenic, 5c; Black Lead, 6c.

ALE.—The market is firm, with a fair demand. The card prices are as follows: X ₹ bbl; XX, $9; India ale $10 ₹ bbl; Bass' English ale, in gilderkins of 22 gals, $22 19@24 24; bbls, 42 gals, $42 28@44 bbls, 63 gals, $62 50@66; 4; in cases, bottles, $2 75; Wm. Youngers' India pale ale in cases of 2 doz bottles, $3 ₹ doz; Robt. Younges of sparkling ale $3 ₹ doz; Goldsmith stops, bottled in Burke, $3 ₹ doz; Cantrell & Cochrane's ginger ale $3 ₹ doz; Caswells, Hazard & Co's ginger ale $1 25 ₹ doz.

BRANS.—The demand is limited and the market is dull. Sales at $2@2 25 for fair to choice.

BORAX.—Refined 20@22c.

BAKER BAKING POWDER.—Market steady; sales per doz ¼ lb cans, $1 60; ½ lb do $3 00; 1 lb do $5 50; 5 lb cans, $27 00 per dozen.

BROOM CORN.—Market quiet with sales red and red topped $4@6½; fair to good green 7½@8¾c. Hurl 9½@10c per lb.

BUTTER.—The supply is falling off, and with a continued active demand, prices are firm with an upward tendency. Choice roll commands 30@32c ₹ lb, while the lower grades are selling at from 16c to 21c ₹ lb.

BEANS.—The market is dull at $1 75@2 25 for choice Navy.

BAGGING.—Penn mill, two bushel bags, 85c; two and one half bushel, 43c; three bushel, 50c.

BUCKWHEAT.—Selling at from $4 50@4 ₹ bbl.

BESWAX.—37c to 39c ₹ lb.

BROOMS.—No 2, $1 ₹ doz; No 3, $2 50 ₹ doz; No 4, $3 ₹ doz; No 5, $3 25 ₹ doz; carpet brooms, $4 ₹ doz; toy brooms and whisps, $1 50@2. In a jobbing way from store, 25 to 37½c ₹ doz additional.

BACON AND PROVISIONS.—The market remains steady, and prices are about as low as they can get this season. Below are the current rates: Extra sugar cured hams 12½c; shoulders, extra sugar cured, 9½c; breakfast bacon, sugar cured, 11½c; dried beef, extra sugar cured, 15½c; bacon shoulders, 8½c; in sides, 9c; short ribs sides, 9½c; clear sides (mess pork), 10½c; mess pork, 13½c; prime leaf in tierces, 9¼c per bbl; prime leaf in half bbls, 10c; prime leaf in buckets, 10½c; refined lard, prime number use in tierces, 9½c; do in half bbls, 10c; do in buckets, 10½c; refined in 3 lb caddies, 12c; do in 5 lb caddies, 15c; do in 10 lb pails, 15c; do in 50 lb pails, 12½c; ham sausage, 10c.

CANDLES.—Market unchanged and prices firm. Sales at 11@11½c ₹ gallon at works and the usual advance for small lots.

CRACKERS.—The current rates are $10 to $13 per bbl; $3 50 to $4 per box.

CONCENTRATED LYE.—Dealers report sales at $1 50 per case of four dozen packages.

CORN MEAL.—The supply continues to meet the demands of the market, with sales at $2 ₹ ton for unbolted meal, and in a small way at $2 40 ₹ cwt. from store.

CRACKERS.—Trade continues satisfactory. Prices for the following grades remain firm but unchanged. We quote: Lemon biscuit 11½c, ginger snaps 12½c; oyster crackers 7c; soda crackers 7c; sugar crackers 9¼c; butter crackers 7c; water do 7½c ₹ lb.

CHEESE.—We have nothing new to report in regard to this article. Prices were as follows: Boston's Phœnix $2 00@2 50; Louisville $2 25@2 50; Ross-dale $4 00@4 50; white lime $2 00; Calcined plaster $4 50; land plaster $3 00@3 50.

CHEESE.—Factory Ohio Dairy 12¾@13c; prime Ohio Factory, September make, 14¼@15c; to the trade, and 15@15½c in a jobbing way; Young America 15c; prime to choice Ohio Skimmed 12@13c.

DRESSED HOGS.—Sales at 5¼@6c.

EGGS.—The receipts are light, and the demand is quite heavy. The holiday season causes an increased consumption, and the market is quite active for both pickled and fresh eggs. Prices although firm are without change; sales of strictly fresh at 28@30c ₹ doz; pickled in lime at 18 to 25c ₹ doz.

FISH.—Prices remain unchanged. We quote: No. 1 extra mess mackerel $25; No 1 mess do, $23; extra No. 1 shore mackerel, $22; No. 1 shore mackerel, $21; extra No. 1 bay mackrel, $19; No. 1 bay mackrel, $17; extra No. 2 shore mackerel, $17; No. 2 bay mackrel, $14 large No. 3 mackrel, $12 50; No. 3 mackrel, $10; split Labrador herring, $6 50; white fish, $7 50@8 00 lake trout, $7 00@7 50; large Georges codfish $7@7 50 ₹ 100; medium Georges codfish, $6 50 ₹ 100; red herring, scale 10c ₹ doz; No. 1 25c ₹ box.

FEATHERS.—There is little or nothing doing and can be quoted at 75@80c ₹ lb; No. 2 C, 44@47c as to quality and quantity.

FLOUR.—The arrivals continue fair and while the demand is fair, prices are firm, with an upward tendency. Below are the store rates:

State amber wheat	$8 25@8 50
State red wheat	7 75@8 00
Fancy St. Louis	9 25@9 50
Fancy Kentucky white wheat	8 50
Good Ohio red wheat	8 00
Wisconsin Spring wheats	7 25
Minnesota Spring wheats	7 75
Rye flour	5 25

GAME.—The season for game is now here, and the frosty change in the weather has improved the demand. The stock on hand is light and prices are well sustained. Below are the selling rates:

Quail—$2 00 per dozen.
Pheasants—$4 00 per dozen.
Rabbits—$2 50 per dozen.
Squirrels—$1 00 per dozen.
Wild Turkey—$2 00@2 50 each.

GROCERIES—The market to day indicated no new features worthy of note, except that a fair trade was reported, notwithstanding the terrible condition of the country roads. Coffees are still firm, with an upward tendency. Below are the current rates:

Coffee—Green Rio coffee, choice, 30c; strictly prime 29c; prime 28¾c; good 28c; fair 26¾c; green Java 33@36c ₹ lb; roasted Rio in packets, 34c; in bulk 33¾c; Java in papers, 40c.

Teas—Young Hyson 60c@$1 10 ₹ lb; Gunpowder 90c@$1 25; Imperial 90c@$1 00 ₹ lb; Japan 85c@$1 00 ₹ lb; Oolong 80c@$1 ₹ lb; fancy $1 00 ₹ lb; Souchong 35@55c ₹ lb.

Sugar—Standard Ex C 10¼c; Standard B 10¼c; standard A 10¾c; standard hards 11¼c.

Molasses—Choice New Orleans 70c; prime 68@70c.

Syrups—Extra White Drips 70c; Sugar Drips, 69c; Amer 60@65c; lower grades 35@40c, as to quality.

Rice—Choice Caroline 8½c; Patna 8c; Rangoon 7½c.

GRAIN.—The receipts continue meagre and prices are very strong. The millers buy all that is offered. Wheat, corn and oats are reported with an advancing tendency, although no change has been realized. Below are the selling rates:

Wheat—Red Winter at $1 60@1 65; Amber $1 65; No 2 Winter at $1 70.

Oats—Are in more liberal supply; we quote: Mixed at 47c; White at 50c, as to quality.

Corn—Sales of old shelled at 68@70c, an advance; new ear sold at 60c; old would bring 65@70c; the market is bare.

Rye—Nominal at 80@85c.

Barley—In the absence of sales, we omit figures.

HOMINY.—The market has undergone no change; we are reported sales at $4 50@5 00 per bbl.

ONIONS.—Are in good supply with sales in a regular way $4 00@4 50 per bbl.

PICKLES—Medium, bbls, $10; medium half bbls, $5 50; half bbls Boston mixed, $8 00; pints, plain or mixed, per dozen, $1 50; quarts, plain or mixed, per do; half gallons, plain, $1 75; gallons, plain, $3 50; Hexagon gallons, mixed, $10; English chow chow, pints, $4 50; English chow chow, quarts, $6 00; English mixed pickles, pints, $3 00; English mixed pickles, quarts, $6 00; English cauliflower, pints, $3 00; English cauliflower, quarts, $6 00; English picalili, pints, $3 50; English picalili, quarts, $6 00; English white onions, pints, $3 00; English white onions, quarts, $5 00; English gherkins, pints, $3 75; English gherkins, quarts, $6 00; English Mofussli, pickles, pints, $4 50.

POTATOES—The receipts have fallen off, but the market is well stocked, and prices continue steady. Regular sales are made at $1 15@1 25 ₹ bushel for Early Rose and mixed at 90@95 ₹ bush.

POTATOES.—The market is becoming more active, but prices are no higher. Sales chickens, dressed, at 9c; ducks, and turkeys at 14@15c ₹ lb.

WHISKY.—Highwines are higher, with sales at $1 06@1 07 per gallon.

IRON MARKETS.

CINCINNATI.

[Reported by Addy, Hull & Co.]

The improvement of demand noted in our list has not increased but there is still a noticeable inquiry and the low prices offered have resulted in a few sales. Hanging Rock charcoal brands firm at quoted price.

(HOT BLAST CHARCOAL.)

Hanging Rock, No. 1, ₹ ton	$38 40
Hanging Rock, No 2, ₹ ton	35 00
Hanging Rock, Forge, ₹ ton	30 00
Tennessee, No 1, ₹ ton	39 00
Tennessee, Forge, ₹ ton	30 00
Alabama, No. 1, ₹ ton	38 00
Alabama, No. 2, ₹ ton	33 00
Missouri, No. 2, ₹ ton	37 00

(HOT BLAST STONE COAL.)

Missouri, No. 1, ₹ ton	37 00
Missouri, Forge, ₹ ton	30 00
Ohio, No. 1, ₹ ton	35 00
Ohio, Forge, ₹ ton	29 00

(COLD BLAST CHARCOAL.)

Hanging Rock, car wheel, ₹ ton	60 00
Missouri, car wheel, ₹ ton	60 00
Kentucky, car wheel, ₹ ton	62 00
Tennessee, car wheel, ₹ ton	58 00
Georgia, car wheel, ₹ ton	60 00
Alabama, car wheel, ₹ ton	62 00
Machinery and Forge, ₹ ton	55 00
Bloomer, ₹ ton	105@110

NEW YORK.

December 20.—There is no business doing in Scotch pig in large parcels, consumers only purchasing to meet present wants and are bought over quotations are fair figures for parcels from hand, but large lots could no doubt be bought for less; the stock on hand is chiefly consigned, and the duplicate is known to be on the way: 200 tons Caribou, just arrived, was sold previously. American pig, since the business noted in part 1, has been quiet, but there is a strong feeling to the market. Some companies, as noted previously, are entirely out of the market, while others, whose stocks are light, are offering very sparingly. We hear of no further sales of consequence—Coleraine brand is firm at $34@35 for No. 1, and $33 for No. 2. This company is only meeting the wants of their consumers, and being willing to contract any length of time ahead; about 300 tons sold, of January delivery, at $30 for No. 1, and $33 for No. 2; $35 was offered for large parcels, January and February delivery, of this brand, but refused. There has been some inquiry for new rails: the only sales we hear of in new, are 600 tons American Bessemer steel T at $169 currency, 4 months; and 3,000 do (rom) on grit to terms. In old we hear of nothing doing. Scrap moves slowly—20 tons sold at $15 from yard. We have again modified our store prices for manufactured, the reduction being about $2 50 ₹ ton, for which see quotations in another place.—"Shipping List."

PHILADELPHIA.

December 20.—Pig iron is attracting more attention. Sales of No. 1 Foundry at $34@35; No. 2 do at $33@34; White and Mottled at $32@26, and Gray Forge, at furnace, at $25@28.

Manufactured Iron—Bar is held at 3c@3 4-10c, worth 3½c, and do $3@3 40. No. 1 scrap sells at $36, and No. 1 cast at $35@36.

Scotch Pig—Is taken at $34@36 for Eglinton and Gigantic pig.

Nails—Are quoted at $4 75 ₹ keg.

Old Metals—Are neglected. We quote:

Brass, light.....13@14 c | Copper, heavy..18 a19
Brass, heavy.....16 a17 | Zinc.....4 a 4½
Copper, light.....15 a16 | Lead.....4 a 4½

Anchors and Chains—Move slowly. Sales of the former at 9c, and of the latter, 1¾ inch and above, at 6¾c.—"Price Current."

BALTIMORE.

December 20.—The market for American anthracite pig continues dull, and we have no movement of importance to advise. Prices are nominally unchanged, and we quote No. 1 at $35; No. 2 $33@34, and No. 3 at $28@30 per ton, with small sales to local consumers at these figures. Scotch pig is also dull, with a moderate supply of Eglinton, which is selling slowly at $40 per ton from yard.—American.

BOSTON.

December 20.—The demand for refined bar iron is dull. Prices are irregular, and the poorer grades are selling at very low figures. Reports from the mills show increased firmness, and the best iron cannot be bought of producers nearly as low as a few weeks ago. Pig iron is quiet, our prices of American are firmer and tend upward. Nails are dull and unchanged.

We quote yard lots of American pig iron at $33a 45 ₹ ton, including No. 1 extra at $35@37, and No. 1 at $34@35. We quote Eglinton at $41. Coltness at $50, Charcoal at $52@55

American and English refined bar are selling at $75@85 per ton for ordinary sizes, and $90@95 for extra sizes, according to size; rods are also selling at 6c for English, 4½@5c currency, and 14@14½c for American, currency, with fancy brands of English selling at 6½@7c. Horse nails are selling at 8@9 ₹ h; cattle ebbles (3½ inches thick,) 7½@8c ₹ lb; coil chains, 7¾a16c from 5-16 to 1¼ inches. Boiler plate remain steady. We quote at 7a7½c for flanges, 5a5½c for C No. 1, and 4¾@5c ₹ lb for common and tank. Nails are in fair demand, with sales at $4 75 for 10d to 60d, and other sizes at a range of $5 00@5 75 ₹ 100 lbs. Horse nails, 2@c for No. 7. —"Commercial Bulletin."

WOOL MARKETS.

PHILADELPHIA.

December 20.—There is a fair business doing at full prices. Sales include: Ohio, Pennsylvania and West Virginia, X and above, at 54a56c; X at 52a54c; medium at 54a55c; coarse at 50a52c. New York, Michigan, Indiana and Western—Fine at 54a56c; medium at 52a55c; coarse at 48a50c; combing, washed, at 60a65c; combing, unwashed, at 49a52c; Canada combing at 62@65c; fine unwashed 54a55c; coarse and medium, unwashed, 34a35c; tub washed 56a58c; Colorado, washed, 25a30c; Colorado, unwashed, 20a35c; extra and merino, pulled, 42a45c; No 1 and super, pulled, 42a45c; Texas, fine and medium, 25a30c; Texas, coarse, 18a20c; California, fine and medium, 21a30c; California, coarse, 25a30c.—"North American."

NEW YORK.

December 20.—There has been less activity displayed during the present week than before, but the views of holders are still high, and no signs of lower prices are visible. The demand continues for the better grades of fleeces and California, foreign not being in much request. The sales comprise 81 bales Cape at 34a35c; 40,000 lbs Mexican, 17a18c; 5,000 lbs Oregon, 40c; 35,000 lbs Colorado, 22a23c; 70,000 lbs Texas, 25a34½c; 10,000 lbs unwashed do, 20c; 10,000 lbs Spring California, 23¼a30c; 29,000 lbs fall do, 23½a28½c; 210 bags X and super pulled, 53a56c; 10,000 lbs pickinck fleece, 60c; 5,000 lbs medium do, 50c; 8,000 lbs combing delaine do, 52a60c; 31,000 lbs No. 1 and above do, 40c; 200 bales Buenos Ayres, 15 to cage, 65 do fair Calif-rnia, 29 do fancy do, 8 do burry do, 60 bags X super pulled, 26,000 lbs XX Ohio fleece, 10,000 lbs No. 1 do, and 10,000 combing.

Unwashed do, on private terms. By auction of damaged, 45 bales washed Donskoi sold at 29½c; and 51 do, unwashed do, 12¼a16c, cash.—Shipping List.

BOSTON.

December 20th.—There has been less activity this week in the wool market, though the sales have been fair for the time of year. The large purchases of manufacturers during the past three months have supplied their wants temporarily, and unless some improvements are offered to purchase in anticipation of their necessities they are disposed to let matters alone. Holders are very confident, and decline to make concessions, as stocks here are light, and the receipts are quite limited. Prices on choice fleece wools are certainly as high as last week, but no advance has been established. We quote X and XX Ohio at 52a55c; three XXX and above at 55c. Michigan X sells at 50c and Wisconsin at 47a49c.

Pulled wools have been in fair request, and choice eastern supers have been sold at high prices. The stock here is fair, and the tone of the market is firm.

California wools have been selling in a quiet way at last week's prices, and the market has been declared almost choice, free lots.

Combing wools have been in improved demand, and holders are getting rather better prices than they did when the Manchester fair was the market. The sales have been mainly of small lots.

Foreign wools are being brought to manufacturers than they have been, and there have been considerable sales of Cape, which we quote at from 32 to 36 cents, only very choice lots bringing our highest quotations. Australian is steady at former rates.

Receipts for the week ending December 13, have been 3,194 bales domestic.

FRIDAY'S Louisville "Commercial" on the situation: The rise experienced to the full rate of three quarters of an inch per hour, and at dusk last evening the marks indicated eighteen feet; the depth of water in the canal, sixteen feet on the falls and down the Indian chute, and thirteen feet over the rocks. The rise will probably have reached its full height by this morning, and the river commence receding to-day. All the large vessels and the high passenger steamers have passed the Varble chute, as there was not sufficient space under the bridge for them to pass. The indications are that we will have a good fall of rain in the afternoon.

Sales for the week have been 1,500,000 lbs domestic and 500,000 lbs foreign. Included in the former are the following sales of fleece wools: 170,000 lbs at 55a56c; 150,000 on private terms; 110,000 lbs Ohio on private terms; 22,000 lbs do and Michigan at 55a56c; 75,000 lbs Michigan on private terms; 20,000 lbs do X at 54c; 5,000 lbs do and Wisconsin X at 48c; 2,000 lbs Wisconsin X at 46c; 20,000 lbs New York State at 56c; 8,000 lbs X at 52@53c; 15,000 lbs XX and above on private terms; 1,000 lbs medium at 50c; 1,000 lbs coarse at 46c; 3,000 lbs Texas at 20c; 30,000 lbs Wisconsin at 49a51c.—Commercial list.

Gloucester Fish Market.

For the week ending December 19.—George's Codfish. Stock very light and held at $5 25 per qtl. Bank are selling at $4 and $4 25.

Mackerel—Bay in fair demand. We quote last sales of No. 1 at $14; No. 2, $10 to 12 as to quality, Green Halibut—None in the market.

Smoked do—In light supply and selling at 12c per lb.

Oil—Cod 56c per gal.—Cape Ann Adv.

MARKETS BY TELEGRAPH.

Chicago Market.

CHICAGO, December 29, 1873.

FLOUR—Quiet and unchanged.

GRAIN—Wheat dull and lower; No 1 spring sold a $1 24a1 24½; No 2 $1 12¾ cash, $1 14¾ seller December; $1 14¾ seller January; $1 17¾ seller February; No 3, 99c. Corn active and firm; No 2, 41½c; rejected 42c; No 3, 42c seller January. Rye quiet. Oats—Demand good at full prices; No 2, 27½c cash, 27¾c seller January. Rye quiet; No 1 weak at 76c. Barley—demand fair and market firm; No 1, $1 34; No 2, $1 05.

PROVISIONS—Pork steady at $14. Lard dull at 8¾c cash. Bulk meats steady; partly cured shoulders 6a6¼c; green do 4¾a5c; hams 11¾a13c, 18 and 16 lbs averages.

WHISKY—In moderate demand at 95c.

HOGS—Firm and in fair demand at $5 95@6 15.

Pork Packing Statistics.

CHICAGO, December 20.—The following are the receipts, in round numbers, of the hog packing of the season to date, as compared with the same time last season, official and estimated: 1873—Chicago, 894,000; Cincinnati, 490,000; Louisville, 220,000; St. Louis, 250,000; Des Moines, Iowa, 32,000; Detroit, 31,000; Cedar Rapids, Iowa, 12,000; Indianapolis, 171,000; Franklin, Indiana, 21,000; Delphi, Indiana, 15,000; Sioux City, Iowa, 10,000; Council Bluffs, Iowa, 10,000. 1872—Chicago, 525,000; Cincinnati, 120,000; Louisville, 230,000; Des Moines, Iowa, 15,000; St. Louis, 310,000; Cedar Rapids, Iowa, 13,000; Indianapolis, 90,000; Delphi, Indiana, 12,000.

Chicago Live Stock Market.

CHICAGO, December 20.—Cattle—Receipts 663. Market very quiet; nothing doing in shipping grades, and prices nominally unchanged. Shipments 800.

Hogs—Receipts 17,239. Market fairly active and firm; fair to choice packing grades $4 90@5 90, mostly $5 70; good to choice shipping $5 70@6 00. closing quiet with 30,000 in pens unsold. Shipments 6,256.

Sheep—Receipts 567. Market fairly active and firm at $2@4 75 for common to choice. Shipments 354.

New York Dry Goods Market.

NEW YORK, December 20.—There was a quiet trade in cotton goods to-day, with prices unchanged. The market for cotton goods was steady and strong; Lonsdale, Hope and Utica sheetings have been advanced 1c per yard. Rolled jaconets firm, and some makes advanced to 9c. Denims and ticks fairly active. Cottonades in brisk demand by clothing manufacturers, and tend upwards. Laces and embroideries in demand.

Cincinnati Market.

CINCINNATI, December 20.—Cotton dull at 15½c. Flour firm and unchanged. Wheat quiet at $1 45@1 50. Corn quiet at 55a56c. Oats quiet at 43a50c. Barley dull and nominal; No. 1 at $1 45a1 50. Pork steady at $13 00@13 50. Lard firm at 8¾a8¾c. Bulk meats strong at 7a7¾a8c. Hogs firm at $5 10a5 65. Green meats firm; shoulders, 5¾a5¾c; clear rib, 6¾a6¾c; clear, 6¾a7c. Hams 9¾a9¾c. Whisky quiet; sales at 92c.

Toledo Market.

TOLEDO, December 20.—Flour steady and in moderate demand. Wheat steady and lower; No 2 white Wabash $1 57; No 2 do $1 49@; amber $1 54; Michigan $1 47¾a1 48. Corn steady and in moderate demand at 58c seller December, 58½c seller January, 58¾c seller February. Oats—Demand good at full prices; No 2, 44c.

Milwaukee Market.

MILWAUKEE, December 20.—Flour steady and in moderate demand. Wheat—demand fair and market firm; No. 1 Milwaukee $1 39; No. 2 do $1 34. Corn the only active article; No. 2 mixed 53c. Oats dull and lower; No 2 mixed 32c. Rye quiet at 74c. Barley dull and unsettled; No. 1, $1 37.

Memphis Market.

MEMPHIS, December 20.—Cotton dull and declined; low middling 14¾a14¾c; strict low middling 15¼c; strict 15¾a16c. Flour active at $5 @5 50. Corn active at 52a54c. Oats steady at 54a55c. Bulk meats dull and nominal. Lard active and prices advanced to 9a10c.

New Orleans Market.

NEW ORLEANS, December 20.—Hay prime and firmer at 82½. Bacon firmer at 9c@9¾a9¾c. Coffee active and firmer; ordinary 11¾a12c; fair 14¼a14½c; good 15a16¾c; prime 16¾a17c. All others unchanged.

New York Finance and Trade.

Gold Closed at 110⅜@110¾.

MONEY

NEW YORK, December 20, 1873.

closed up easy at 4a5 per cent., after lending as high as seven per cent. gold. Foreign exchange closed dull at 108¾a108¾ for prime bankers' sixty days sterling, and 109¾ for demand.

GOLD

closed at 110¾a110¾, after selling at 110¾ and 110¾. Market weak to-day with very few traces of the late bull feeling. The rates paid for carrying were 7 1-16, 6, 5 and 7 per cent., gold. Treasury operations for the week at the New York office, included the disbursement of $835,000, and receipt of $1,589, 210 for customs, principally silver bars. Imports of dry goods $878,122; merchandise $4,130,799.

GOVERNMENTS

dull and lower.

U. S. coupons, 1881	118¾	5-20's, '67	17
5-20's, '62	112¾	5-20's, '68	17¾
5-20's, '64	113	New 5's	11
5-20's, '65	113¾	10-40 's	10¾
5-20's, '65, new	113¾	Currency 6's	122½

STATE BONDS

quiet.

Missouri	92½	Virginia, old	36
Tennessee, old	80	North Carolina, old	24
Tennessee, new	80¾	North Carolina, new	14
Virginia, new	60		

STOCKS.

Railway and miscellaneous speculation firm and buoyant, with an advance in prices ranging from ¾ a2¾ per cent. The principal dealings were in Western Union, Union Pacific, Pacific Mail, Wabash, Lake Shore, and North-west common. Late in the day Harlem rose from 120 to 121 ex-dividend, but the general list weakened and closed at a reduction of ¼a¾ per cent. from the highest point.

Canton	62¾	St. Paul preferred	62¾
W. U. Tel. Co	74	Wabash	30¾
Quicksilver	24	Do preferred	60
Adams Express Co	90	Fort Wayne	89
Wells, Fargo & Co	70	Terre Haute	12
American Express	56	Do preferred	30
U.S. Express	67	Chicago & Alton	101
Pacific Mail	37¾	Hartford & Erie	3¾
N. y. Central	95¾	Ohio & Mississippi	42
Erie	60¾	Clev., Col. & Cin	74¾
Erie preferred	69¾	Buf. & Quincy	94
Harlem, ex div	120	Lake Shore	79¾
Harlem, preferred	129	Panama	97
Michigan Central	95¾	Illinois Central	110
Pittsburgh	84	Union Pacific	39¾
N. W. Com	85¾	Central Pacific	96
Do preferred	88¾	Union	84¾
Rock Island	98¾	Hartford & Erie	3¾
N. J. Central	100	Del. Lack	101
St. Paul	40¾	Bankers' bills	8¾

COTTON MARKETS.

New Orleans.

NEW ORLEANS, December 20.—C

CITY MATTERS.

The Report of the Finance Committee.

Messrs. Negley, McClure, J. H. Jones, Littell and Fetterman, appointed a sub-committee of the Finance Committee, to prepare a report for Councils, held a consultation on Saturday.

A meeting of the Finance Committee will be held at nine o'clock this morning, when the report as prepared by the sub-committee will be presented. After having passed upon by the Finance Committee, the report will be presented to Councils in the afternoon, and a lively discussion may be anticipated when the action of that body is required.

Died in a Box Car.

While an employee of the Cleveland and Pittsburgh Railroad was passing through the yards off Penn street on Saturday afternoon, he discovered a drunken man in one of the box cars violently vomiting. The railroader went for a policeman to have the man arrested, but upon their returning they found he was dying. A physician was sent for, but before he arrived death had relieved the stranger's sufferings. At the inquest, one dollar and forty-two cents and a couple of scraps of paper were found on the deceased's person. It is thought from these papers that his name was Patrick Rice, who had been working in Manchester for some time past.

Harrisburg Hotels.

A rumor having been recently circulated in this city, to the effect that the hotel proprietors of Harrisburg had entered into an arrangement to "put up" the price of board on their customers, during the coming session of the Legislature, a friend of the writer who was there the other day, made inquiry in regard to the report and found there was no truth in the story, at least so far as that elegant, first class, home like hotel, the Lochiel, is concerned. That prince of quiet, unobtrusive landlords, who so religiously follows the example of the man who got rich attending to his own business, Mr. George W. Hunter, so well assisted by his gentlemanly clerks, Boas and "Wise," is well satisfied to pursue the even tenor of his way, as of old, and does not propose to fall in with any new fangled ideas gotten up by interested parties for their own benefits.

COURT PROCEEDINGS.

United States Circuit Court—Judge McLennan.

In the matter of Kranz & Vogelson vs. R. M. Doyle, preliminary injunction was granted against the defendant to restrain certain creditors from interfering with or disposing of the property of the alleged bankrupt.

In the suit of M. D. Bergin vs. the city of Pittsburgh, a mandamus execution was ordered to issue.

In the matter of Thomas W. Loughrey vs. Backus and Morris, a preliminary injunction was granted to restrain execution creditor from disposing of the property of the bankrupt.

Motions were made for preliminary injunctions in a number of similar cases, but the arguments on the same were continued until the present week.

BANKRUPTCY CASES.

In the Clerk's office of the United States District Court, proceedings were commenced in the following cases:

W. L. Whan, of Franklin, Venango county; Ralph Petitbone, of Oil City, and Nathaniel Clark, of Titusville, filed voluntary petitions in bankruptcy. The usual orders were made.

Samuel Morrow, of this city, filed his schedules in bankruptcy, a voluntary petition in which was filed a few days since.

Common Pleas—Judges Stowe and Collier.

A final order was made granting a supplement to the charter of the First Associate Reformed Church of Manchester.

In the matter of the voluntary assignment of J. F. Harvey & Co., the court appointed J. W. Campbell and J. F. Lea appraisers.

Wm. Ta ne presented a petition for leave to adopt Ellen Dilworth, and it appearing to the court that the mother is satisfied, the court ordered that the name of the child be Ellen Taine, and that she become the heir-at-law of the said William Taine.

TRIAL LIST FOR TO-DAY.

Clark vs. Hertz et. al.
Carnier vs. the Real Estate S. B.
White, for use, vs. Goff.
McKarney vs. the P. & C. Railway Co.
Welhelm vs. the P. V. & C. R. R. Co.
Barnum & Keeney's Assignee vs. Young.
Rhoads vs. Brown, adm.
Gallagher vs. Malone.
Emerick vs. Lloyd et. al.
Windsor vs. the Pleasant Valley R. R. Co.
Hill vs. Couble.
Smith et. al. vs. Haigh.

District Court—Judges Ewing, Kirkpatrick and White.

This court will continue jury trials during Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. The cases not disposed of on last week's list will be taken up this morning.

Quarter Sessions—Judge Sterrett.

The following sentences were imposed in this court, on Saturday:

To the Penitentiary—James Trimble, burglary, at residence of D. R. Lewis, four years and six months.

To the Workhouse—Edward Williams, larceny, on oath of John Burket; fifteen months. John Adams, larceny, on oath of Samuel Moffitt; eight months. John Partridge, larceny; eighteen months. Frank McDonald, obstructing an officer; six months. John Goggins, larceny and receiving stolen goods; two years. Richard Ennis, larceny; two years. James Smith, larceny; twenty months.

To Jail—Michael Ford, assault and battery; twenty days.

To the Refuge—William Harrison, convicted of larceny.

William Burgess, convicted of an aggravated assault on John A. Walker, was fined $100 and costs.

Margaret Edwards, convicted of simple assault on Lena Carr, was sentenced to pay a fine of five dollars and costs.

TRIAL LIST FOR TO-DAY.

Pat O'Neal,	Samuel Murphy,
Fred Bloomer,	Theresa Weisenberger,
Fred Diffenbach *et al.*,	August Breckley,
Henry Porter,	Thomas Mebehan,
Joseph Rogers (2),	Daniel Brown,
John Finser,	Adam Shafer,
Catherine Filley,	Alex. Swords,
Anna Siler,	Ida Hair,
John Prutting,	John Kunz.
Isaac Curry,	

PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

Pittsburgh Opera House.

To-night, the Christmas play. The able managers of the Opera House are not behind the times nor unmindful of the necessities of this holiday season, and they have provided for the coming two weeks a feast of unusually good things. "Lost at Sea," a spectacular drama, which has met with unbounded success in New York and Philadelphia, will be brought out by the entire strength of the stock company. The scenic effects incidental to the piece are new and beautiful. London bridge will be "set" with wonderful realistic accuracy, and, at the close, the great conflagration scene will thrill all who witness it by its startling naturalness. "Lost at Sea" is to be played for the delight of all during the Christmas festival days. We anticipate a generous response from the public.

Academy of Music.

Amusement seekers will be indebted to Mr. V. E. Beamer, one of our most energetic and successful managers, for an opportunity to make the acquaintance of a new actor and a new play, both said to be good, at one and the same time. To-night, at the Academy of Music, Mr. George France will make his first appearance in this city, in a drama of the sensational kind, called "Marked for Life." The play and player have had the seal of metropolitan commendation set upon them, having had a considerable run and marked success at a New York theatre. Of the drama Mr. Oliver Doud Byron said, in a private conversation, that it was the best sensational play he had ever seen. John E. Owens's dramatic company will support Mr. France, and do it well. All the necessary accessaries of scenery and setting have been provided by Mr. Beamer, and there is little doubt that the week will be a highly successful one. There will be matinees on Thursday and Saturday afternoons.

Trimble's Varieties.

Managers Gardner and Trimble are determined to serve their patrons with entertainments suitable for holiday week, and have added largely to their already excellent company. Mr. E. D. Davies, whose ventriloquial performance has of itself sufficient interest and merit to fill the house to its utmost capacity, has been prevailed upon to remain another week. Miss Patty Rosa, a songstress of good abilities; Boyd and Scott, who sing and dance together in perfect accord; Miss Kitty Rowell, singer and general artiste; Mr. J. F. Hill, who does some startling things on the flying trapeze; the well known and popular Victorelli family; W. C. Turner, Miss Annie Braddon, G. W. Herman, Miss Lucy Clifton, Harry W. Williams, Miss Emma Eilinger, and a number of others, whose names escape us, are in the company. There will be two performances on Christmas day.

Library Hall.

The Drummer Boy—Few of us who have seen the military allegory, "The Drummer Boy, or the Battlefield of Shiloh," do not retain pleasant recollections of its exciting scenes and beautiful tableaux, and have a desire to refresh our memories with another sight of them. To the Fourteenth Regiment, National Guards of Pennsylvania, we are to be under obligations for this pleasure, they having made due arrangements for the presentation of the piece at Library Hall for five nights and two matinees, commencing to-morrow evening. Two hundred ladies and gentlemen are necessary to give the allegory properly, and these have been secured and thoroughly drilled, so that there will be none of the clogging of machinery and action usually incident to amateur performances. The matinee performances are for Christmas and Saturday afternoons. The box-sheet for the sale of reserved seats will be opened at Barr & Knake's music store, No. 12 Sixth street, at ten o'clock this morning.

Masonic Hall.

Masonic Hall will be the scene of some highly entertaining performances in the way of magic and music, every evening this week and matinees on Thursday and Saturday afternoons. Prof. Millar, an illusionist of great skill and wide spread reputation, will see to it that the department of magic is properly represented, while Madame Millar, formerly Miss Cochran, of this city, assisted by a son and daughter, Nellie and Willie, will furnish sweet songs. Quite a number of elegant presents will be distributed at the close of each entertainment.

THE FIRE COMMISSION.

Further Evidence as to Hose.

The Price and Quality of Carbolized.

More of the Reporter's Statements Contradicted.

The Gutta Percha Company's Salesman on the Stand—Interesting Testimony—The Allegheny Contract Again.

The Committee of Councils appointed for the purpose, on Saturday evening continued the taking of testimony in regard to hose and the transactions of the Fire Commissioners. We give the substance of the testimony below:

A Pittsburgh Dealer.

Howard Hartley sworn and examined: Never made the statement that the department was under "influence;" don't know anything about the Commission or their business; Mr. Stover brought the reporter to our store (Hartley, McKee & Co.), and I didn't know their errand; think I told him the bid I proposed to make was one dollar, not ninety cents per foot; had no reason to believe that if we had offered hose for trial that it would be tampered with; but on account of the assertion of Mr. Stover in regard to the cutting of hose, we did not make the bid; we once ordered carbolized hose from the manufactory for the department, but the company would not allow us a discount, although we had a letter that made us believe they would; have heard Mr. Stover frequently claim that his hose was cut.

THE CARBOLIZED HOSE.

Junius Schenck, sworn—Am the inventor of carbolized hose; the experiments were made in 1868; in 1869 we manufactured it first; I visited Pittsburgh as well as other cities; saw President Hays and met the Board; exhibited samples of carbolized and uncarbolized duck and showed the strength; then asked $1 60, but being anxious to introduce it, I offered additional number of feet for each thousand ordered; we furnished 2,500 feet and that was the first introduction; I believe it has given satisfaction; we have received several orders; statements had been made that we varied the price and the Commission made effort to have us reduce it. It is true we sold the city of Baltimore some of this hose at $1 19, but it was because of the failure, from various causes, of hose we formerly made and on account of complaints, wishing to introduce our new manufacture, I offered and sold them, on trial, one thousand feet, only, at $1 19; this hose has now an established reputation, and is used in nine-tenths of the cities in the United States; we have sent it upon order to foreign countries, and we have never sold less than $1 40; we have *given away* probably 10,000 feet in lieu of injured hose. We are now increasing our facilities and expect next year to reduce the price, and also guarantee it for three years; this is the only hose manufactured for time, although others guarantee pressure. The witness next explained the care taken in the manufacture of the hose, the preparation of the duck and the various operations given through the different stages of the making.

To Mr. McCarthy—We have never entered into a combination with Commissioners or others, and have never offered presents or given considerations for orders; have not known Mr. Elliot 1 think, since about 1868; never made any arrangement with Mr. Elliott to induce orders from this commission; he has transacted business for us going to towns in this section of the country, Ohio, etc., to see parties wanting hose, and thus save our sending a man from headquarters.

THAT REPORTED OFFER OF DISCOUNT.

Mr. Schenck here explained the contests about the patents and the different manufactures. Mr. Geo. H. Stover visited me in New York, and said he was satisfied that the hose made by us, was the best hose, and as he wished to deal in the best article he would like to get the agency for Pittsburgh. I told him that we had no agents, and we could only sell at $1 40 to all; we have no record of any sale of this hose at $1 05 in New Orleans; they may have got a common hose but I don't know of it. Mr. Stover is the agent in Pittsburgh for the New York Packing Company's hose, and he said he would throw up that if we would give him our agency; Mr. Schenck then explained the offer of Mr. Stover, the agent, to Logan, Gregg & Co, who asked a discount and being denied said that he had sent a young man the day before to inquire and he was informed that a discount of fifteen per cent. would be allowed. Upon inquiry it was found that the young man had seen Mr. Lewis, the treasurer of the company, and procured a circular regarding the ordinary gum goods, upon which a discount is allowed. (This circular was produced by Mr. Schenck, and the carbolic hose is not quoted upon it. Special note is made upon it that for prices, &c., of that hose, see another circular, and cautious persons wanting carbolic hose to name it, or the ordinary goods would be sent.) Mr. Elliott never made any effort to prevent Mr. Gregg from fulfilling his contract with Allegheny.

Mr. Gregg, recalled by his own request.—He stated that he wished to set himself right in the matter of the statement regarding price of carbolic hose and the offer made him. Mr. Gregg produced a letter from a gentleman in New York, stating that an offer of fifteen per cent. discount was made to him in behalf of Logan, Gregg & Co., but next day it was denied. (This is referred to in Mr. Schenck's testimony above.)

THAT ALLEGHENY CONTRACT.

John Megraw, sworn—Our Controller today showed me the article of agreement signed by Mr. Stover; I gave Mr. Stover plenty of opportunity to close up his contract, and he did not come up, and so we gave the contract for carbolized hose; the statement of Stover that he had never signed the agreement, and that he could not get a chance to do it is therefore false; Mr. Patterson and I came over here and asked some of the firemen about the hose, and they said both were good hose; we bought our hose direct from the bid received; we waited two weeks on Mr. Gregg, and as he couldn't fulfil the contract we awarded it as we did.

A LIE OUT OF THE WHOLE CLOTH.

John Napier, carriage and wagon builder of this city was sworn and after reading the statement of the *Leader* purporting to come from him said it was a lie made almost out of the whole cloth. I told the *Leader* reporter that I made two of the carriages for $1,350; the statement that three carriages had been purchased is true; never told him any such thing that the hose-carriages were of very inferior quality, or that they were not worth the money paid for them; a large portion of that article as alleged to be in an interview with me is false; I told a gentleman I would never make another carriage at $975; the reporter was a tall man, with glasses, that called on me; the Commissioners generally came to me and bargained with us for everything they bought; they generally made a pretty close bargain with us; they have obtained reductions from our bills, and have refused payments for some repairs charged; the carriages procured from the East could not be built and finished so well here without machinery at the price paid for them.

THOSE HUSTED HOSE.

Chief Engineer White recalled—In regard to Stover's statement, he says that the statements that there wasn't a section of his hose bursted at the Eleventh ward school house was false; there was twelve hundred feet of hose; there was six hundred feet of that linen, no such conversation as Stover says ever occurred; what I stated under oath before is true; there was not a section of our hose bursted at Saw Mill Run, although Stover says so; since 1870 there has, I think, 24,700 feet of this carbolized hose been furnished the department; we never sold a section of carbolized hose.

Mr. Semple, one of the committee, stated that he had bought one section of hose from the city (non-carbolized) at forty dollars.

John R. Hague, *recalled*.—The carbolic acid was so strong that we would have to open the doors to let out the smell; I have known in the engine houses some of the firemen to get sick from sleeping on the carbolic acid hose; there never was a section of hose sold for five dollars; the lowest I ever have known any to be sold was at six dollars; it was without the couplings; I never sold any carbolic acid hose, or as it is known, carbolized hose; what we sold was test hose.

At this point the commission adjourned until Monday evening at seven o'clock.

FIRES IN ALLEGHENY.

A Hub Factory Badly Damaged.

Two fires occurred yesterday morning in Allegheny city, both at rather unseasonable hours, and one resulted in considerable loss. The firemen attended promptly, and did good service, as usual.

At two o'clock flames were discovered in a coal shed attached to the brewery of Caspar Gang, corner of East and Second streets, in the Third ward. From the shed the fire was spread to an old frame house, and both were nearly entirely destroyed. The old brewery building was somewhat scorched, but the whole loss will hardly exceed three hundred dollars. Insured. The origin of the fire is not known.

The other fire occurred at the hub factory of Oscar Lanner & Co., located on Walker street, between Rebecca street and South avenue, at five o'clock. The building was an ironclad, and contained a considerable amount of stock and lumber, and some valuable machinery. The establishment was rendered almost a total wreck. The loss may reach near $5,000, upon which there was an insurance of $3,000.

About a year and a half ago the place was damaged by fire, also on a Sunday morning.

AGAINST AN OIL REFINERY.

Preliminary Injunction Refused.

An argument was heard in the Court of Common Pleas, on Saturday before Judges Stowe and Collier, upon a motion for a preliminary injunction to restrain the Model Oil Refining Company from erecting their works in Harrison township. Alexander Scott is the complainant. He alleges that the defendants are erecting a tank thousand barrel tank immediately on the line of his property, and within seventy-two feet of his dwelling; that, considering the nature of the business, and the danger from fires and explosions, the erection and operation of the works will inflict irreparable injury upon him. It is further alleged, that by reason of an excavation made on the hillside for the refinery, a portion of complainants ground has slipped down, and endangered the foundation of his dwelling. W. S. Purviance was heard in support of the motion, and M. W. Acheson, contra. The Court refused to grant a preliminary injunction, to restrain the company from proceeding with the work.

THE COMMITTEE OF FORTY.

A Meeting for Organization—What was Accomplished.

It was arranged that the Committee of Forty, appointed by the Hon. John B. Guthrie, chairman of the public meeting held in City Hall on the 13th, should assemble on Saturday afternoon, for organization, at the office of Alexander King, 91 Water street. The Committee, as previously announced, is composed of the following named gentlemen:

Isaac Jones,	John Harper,
Alex. King,	John A. Renshaw,
John R. Baum,	Henry Hays,
J. W. Knox,	Daniel O'Neill,
John Brown,	Wm. Alexander,
T. R. Whiteman,	George M. Reed,
Samuel Ewart,	Alex. M. Guthrie,
Alex. Bradley,	Andrew Miller,
M. McCullough,	J. G. Hammond,
Jas. Brown,	H. S. McKee,
Jos. Dilworth,	Geo. W. Hatfman,
William Carr,	J. W. Riddell,
Edmond Wilkins,	R. P. Nevin,
Wm. Robinson,	Jos. Woodwell, Sr.
A. Strimpey,	Samuel Morrow,
T. Tarker,	D. Hostetter,
John Moorehead,	Thos. E. Howard,
James Clark,	C. W. Robb,
Dr. A. Arthurs,	J. D. Kelly,
W. H. Smith,	R. H. Hartley.

When the roll was called, it was found that only fifteen members were present, namely: Thomas E. Howard, R. P. Nevin, J. W. Riddell, Dr. Harper, John A. Renshaw, Joseph Woodwell, Alex. King, Dr. A. Arthurs, Isaac Jones, Dr. Hostetter, John Harper, Alex. M. Guthrie, Daniel O'Neill, John W. Knox and John Brown. As there were not enough members present to constitute a quorum, it was decided to wait awhile before proceeding further, shortly after, Messrs. Wm. Alexander, Andrew Miller, Samuel Ewart, Samuel Morrow, John Moorehead and Edmund Wilkins appeared.

As there were twenty-one members present, a bare majority, it was moved that Mr. John Harper be chosen permanent chairman. Mr. Harper objected, and the motion was withdrawn.

Mr. Isaac Jones was then appointed chairman, and Mr. Alex. M. Guthrie secretary.

Mr. Howard moved that eleven members constitute a quorum, but Mr. Harper thought it would be injudicious to form a quorum from the minority.

Mr. Howard was satisfied that eleven men would be better than twenty-one as a quorum for business. He moved, however, that a general committee of twenty-one be appointed to transact the business of the committee of forty, and that of this general committee eleven shall constitute a quorum. This motion was adopted.

Mr. Guthrie then announced that Messrs. Alex. Bradley and Henry Hays had declined to serve on the committee, and a lengthy discussion ensued as to whether Mr. Guthrie, as chairman, or the Committee of Forty, should fill the vacancies. Mr. Guthrie thought his work ended with the organization of the committee. Others stated that he had been vested with power to appoint the committee, which carried with it the right to fill vacancies. It was finally decided that the vacancies should be filled by the ballot, and that no man could be chosen who did not receive a unanimous vote.

On a motion of Messrs. J. W. Riddell, a committee of four was appointed to draft rules, namely: J. W. Riddell, R. P. Nevin, John Harper and John Brown.

Mr. O'Neill moved that the Committee on Rules confine sections given through the different stages of the making.

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CITY MATTERS IN BRIEF.

MONEY was quoted "easy" on the street yesterday.

THERE is a gang of boy thieves in the lower part of Allegheny that is being industriously worked by the police.

ESQUIRE MILLER, who, since Postmaster Negley was appointed has held the position of collector in the postoffice, has been "retired."

CORONER MCCALLIN has been notified to hold an inquest at Mansfield this morning on the body of a man who was killed at the coal mines.

ABOUT one o'clock this morning, the body of an unknown man was found on the roadroad near Braddock's station. An inquest will be held this afternoon.

ANDREW KALOFY, one of the boys long held for a hearing on a charge of larceny by Mr. Callow, was yesterday held for trial. The others were discharged for want of evidence.

AN up-town druggist in this city, who recently sold some potash, by mistake, for sarsaparilla, one of the men who purchased it by the paradoxical statement, that he never told a lye.

MESSRS. REESE, GRAFF & WOODS, proprietors of the large rolling mills on the south side of the bank of the Allegheny, are now running double turn and are unable to keep up with their orders.

COMMON COUNCIL as well as Select, will meet this afternoon. The call for the common branch was made too late to send personal notice. Members will, therefore, attend without further notice.

MR. JAMES K. HELYAR was thrown from a wagon on Saturday afternoon near the Marine hospital. His leg was badly broken. The injured man was taken to his home on Chartiers street.

A DOWN-TOWN bald-headed gentleman was so indiscreet as to say that his wife had pulled his hair out. The lady says it is not true—the baldness was caused by the habit of carrying bricks in his hat.

THE boot and shoe store of Mr. Carney, on Wylie avenue, near high street, was broken into on Saturday night, and a silver watch and several pairs of boots were carried away. The entrance was effected through a rear window.

DIRECTOR E. G. KREHAN, of the Twenty-eighth and Twenty-ninth wards, informs us that the teachers of the night schools in these wards have volunteered to continue their night schools one month longer this season, extending to February 1st, 1874, without compensation.

A CHARGE of assault and battery was preferred against Robert Black, proprietor of the St. James Hotel, by a man named L. B. Bell, and a hearing was had on Saturday morning before Deputy Mayor Butler, who dismissed the case at the cost of the prosecutor, as there was not sufficient evidence to sustain the charge.

GEORGE BROWN and Michael Tool, hucksters, have been conducting a partnership business in the Diamond market. Brown has a bill in equity, setting forth that Tool has appropriated some $400 of the firm's money, and refuses to render any account. The court is asked to dissolve the partnership and compel Tool to render an account.

A NUMBER of coal works on the Monongahela, river have resumed operations. Among others, we understand, are the mines of Sam Brown, J. C. Risher & Co., and Walton & Co., who are paying the diggers four cents per bushel. It now seems probable that a majority of the works will be running in a few days at four dollars per thousand bushels.

MARY WOLF, an insane pauper, who had been confined in the workhouse for sixty days, was discharged on Saturday. She was sent in charge of an officer to the Allegheny Mayor's office, with a note from Superintendent Cordier, stating that she was insane, and recommending that she be properly cared for. She will be sent to the insane department of the poorhouse.

HENRY WHITE, colored, has entered suit in the District Court, against Isaac Taylor, merchant, for damages for false arrest and imprisonment. Plaintiff was employed as a servant by Mr. Taylor, and some time since a horse was robbed of some valuable jewelry. Hester White was arrested on suspicion, and imprisoned eighteen hours, when she was discharged as innocent. She claims damages in $5,000.

ABOUT one o'clock on Sunday morning Turnkey McAfee had a little tussle with a prisoner in the lock-up. The prisoner was inclined to be noisy and so disturbed the slumbers of his fellow prisoners that the turnkey concluded to place him in another cell, when he resisted and the scuffle ensued. The captive was mastered and yesterday morning was released on paying a fine of $10 and costs.

THERE will be a meeting of the surviving soldiers of the Mexican war, at Bridgeport, Belmont county, Ohio, to-morrow, the 23d inst. It is earnestly requested that every soldier who can will be present, as business of importance will be transacted. The presence and hearty co-operation of all is, therefore, sincerely solicited. Persons who command companies are requested to send their addresses to Mr. J. M. Todd, Belmont, Ohio.

AN emigrant from this vicinity writes home from Pierce City, Lawrence county, Missouri, under date of the 9th ult., that he has been in Pierce City since the 20th of June last, and has seen but six cloudy days and four rainy ones. He is beginning to tire of continual sunlight and moonlight and starlight, and to pine for "an honest old-fashioned Monongahela fog." He complains that there is no sickness of any kind in that place, and affirms that "it would be a relief to hear a hoarse voice." He doesn't mention whether he has any land to sell in that Paradise for everybody except the poor doctors.

THE Steubenville *Gazette*, of Saturday afternoon, says: We learn from a gentleman from McCoy's Station, this county, that on yesterday afternoon Mr. C. C. Brenneman, telegraph operator and railroad agent at that place, suddenly left without giving notice of his intentions, either to the company in whose employ he has been, or to his family. When last seen he was walking on the railroad track between McCoy's and Elliottsville, in the direction of this city. This was between three and four o'clock in the afternoon; since that time nothing has been heard from him, and fears are entertained that he may have been wrongfully or foully dealt with.

CORONER MCCALLIN has not yet got to see the necessities of his office in the matter of giving public information. We regret that he did not retain Mr. West for a short time so that he might understand the claims of the press upon him. So far, the reporters have had difficulty in obtaining facts regarding deaths coming under the view of the Coroner, while Mr. West had a thorough appreciation of his duty in this particular, and gave every facility to the knights of the quill. No doubt Mr. McCallin when he gets in his office to be provided in the court house, will make satisfactory arrangements, and will learn to get all the particulars he can from messengers bringing notice of the need of his services.

A DELIGHTFUL ENTERTAINMENT.

Concert at the Pennsylvania Female College.

A very successful concert was given at this flourishing institution on Friday evening the 19th inst. The programme was a very interesting one—so much so that we cannot refrain from making special mention of every member. According to programme, the concert should have opened with Leybach's *First Bolero*, but unfortunately the performer, Miss Ida Faber was taken sick a week previous to the concert; had not sufficiently recovered from her illness to do justice, and was therefore excused.

No. 2, was a vocal trio by the favorite, German song-writer *Curschmann*, sung by the Misses Campbell, Nicholson and Stewart. This song is a fine one, and was excellently rendered by the young ladies. Their voices blended well, and the manner of singing sufficiently illustrated that they have a competent teacher.

No. 3, was a piano duett (Nocturno) by L. Welz—a very pretty little thing, involving little bells in one part, which was played very well indeed by the Misses Wills and Willock.

No. 4, was a Scotch ballad—"There's no Room for Jealousy"—very well sung by Miss S. Nicholson. Miss N. evidently has a talent for ballad singing.

No. 5, was a piano solo, Bachanale, (Kuhe) well played. It requires a sure touch, especially in the left hand, which has many octave skips to make. Miss Singleton performed it well on the whole, if we except her left hand, which was not sufficiently sure in making the right notes.

No. 6, was a vocal duet "Through valley, through forest" (Bagnoli), sung by the Misses Campbell and Stewart. This song may be characterized as belonging to the "frothy" "class," although well written it contains little musical merit, but the young ladies made nevertheless a good deal out of it, which prove that they had mastered it thoroughly.

The closing number of the first part consisted of Gelinek's Rondo, in G, imitating Scarlatti's Novelette No. 1, from op. 21; the second an Idyleop. 23. No. 1, by Schulhoff, and the third Wm. Mason's beautiful Spring Dawn Mazourka op. 8. The first piece, a great favorite among Schumann's admirers, was performed by Prof. A. Beuter, the principal of the musical department of the college, and was heartily applauded.

The second is a very original little tridle. The right hand carries the song, while the left hand skips about in the light staccato style. Little attempt at shading as this style of song seems, it requires great independence and individual treatment in order to bring out the contrast between the right and left hand part. The one being entirely different in character from the other.

The third piece is one of those delicious piano caprices, full of melody, one of Mason's best things, and beautifully written, but does not belong to the flashy and loud (or what some people would term) brilliant. The latter term simply means *noisy* kind. It contains many difficult passages, the third part being especially intricate, the continuous passages being distributed among both hands in intervals of from two to four measures. It is one of those little gems, which only Wm. Mason can produce.

Part II. opened with Mendelsohn's overture to the Hebrides, played by the Misses Fulham and Sparks who, we are informed, are devoting themselves almost exclusively to music. This overture is considered one of Mendelsohn's. It is in its general character similar to his "Midsummer Night's Dream" overture, and is a rather severe task to undertake, having many difficult passages to execute throughout. The young ladies played it exceedingly well.

As No. 2 Mrs. Hershey, the vocal teacher, gave Arditi's valse de concert, *"L Ardita,"* which she sang in a very perfect manner indeed; she has her voice well under control, and sings with great taste and expression. She is a thorough musician beside, which cannot be said of very many of the more prominent singers in this country. Before Mrs. H. sang Mr. Parker played *Les Plaints des Suisse*, by Gretscher, and played it from memory, which deserves special mention. The piece is difficult in its melodies, and Miss B. rendered it very well indeed.

As No. 4 of Second Part Miss L. Campbell sang "O luci di quest anima" (Donizetti exercising) well. The song is one of Donizetti's very best effusions and presents difficulties which only a good voice can attempt. Her manner of rendering the piece reflects great credit on Mrs. Hershey, to whom she was encored, as a matter of course, and responded with the favorite Scotch ballad "Down the Burn, Davie."

No. 5 was a *Barcarolle* by Kuhe, played by Miss Mertz. She performed it very well indeed, illustrating Prof. B's peculiar soft touch, showing that she has improved her opportunity while under his instruction.

Mrs. Hershey and Miss Nicholson next sang a duett "I Know a Bank" which was encored, and in response to this they rendered English ballad. The closing number was a Fantasia on "Il Trovatore," by Ketterer played by Miss Eva Davis. This piece is exceedingly difficult, and Miss D. performed it with a great deal of vim; and on the whole played it very well indeed.

We congratulate the managers of the Pennsylvania Female College upon the succession of Prof. Beuter. We have listened to performances at this college frequently, but never before were we so struck with the clearness and precision of touch, and the general style of playing and interpretation of the various compositions. With Mr. B. and Mrs. Hershey at the head of the musical department, we bespeak a bright future for the college.

It is proper to mention that the piano used on this occasion was one of Weber's Grand, and was truly a grand instrument, superior in tone and finish to many other instruments now in the market. It was kindly furnished for the occasion by the agent, Carl Retter, No. 29 Fifth avenue, Pittsburgh.

Two steam fire engines have been engaged for two day's past, in pumping water from the cellars in the Twenty-fifth ward.

How They Make Leather in Russia.

The *Shoe and Leather Reporter* publishes some extracts from private letters of Hon. Marshall Jewell, United States Minister at St. Petersburg, which afford not a little interesting information concerning the Russian shoe and leather tanneries and their mode of operation. Minister Jewell appears to be taking a deep interest in this important branch of industry, and has occupied much of his leisure time in inspecting the more prominent establishments for the purpose of comparing the methods of the Russians with those pursued in the United States. Tanning is one of the most extensive industries in St. Petersburg, there being one hundreds of large establishments, each tanning from 30,000 to 40,000 hides annually. They each employ about a hundred operatives, at a cost from $12 to $12 a month each; and while little of their labor is thrown away, these men accomplish on an average only about half as much as American beamsmen. They use willow bark altogether, and make only about forty per cent of leather of green hides. The cost of tanning is about eight cents per pound, and the product is far inferior to that of our own tanneries. Minister Jewell thinks there is an immense field open for American enterprise there, and that its introduction would be mutually beneficial. In regard to one other point not connected with the leather business, the Minister says he gets letters from New England manufacturers stating that bogus goods with counterfeit stamps on them are selling in Russia. Pistols are made in Germany, and this cuts off our Collins axes, Fairbanks scales, the sewing machines and others. He finds that our treaty forbids the practice, but says nothing about venting or using the goods sold under the counterfeit marks. So the dealers there buy axes in Belgium, England or Germany and put an exact duplicate of the Collins stamp on them in transit, and he is powerless to prevent it. He is going to try to get this thing straightened out when he gets fairly at work and well acquainted. Touching the government to which he is accredited, the Minister finds that, of its kind, it is perfection, and clocks work itself. The Emperor is a man of brains, force and progress, and has a real love for his people.

The Defect of the Times.

One of our business exchanges observes that there can be no permanent check to the prosperity of this country. So we think, and hence we have always urged the activity of capital and labor, and a ceaseless movement of enterprise. But there seems to be a very numerous class of people whose favorite occupation it is to magnify disasters, to revel in exposures of corruption, extravagance and official insolvency, and generally to hold back when others are for pushing forward. In the economy of civilized society, it is true, there is utility in this, and it acts as a wholesome corrective. But in a time of revulsion this spirit runs riot and sweeps all before it, so that returning effort is slow and feeble. We all know that in really times we are in the incipient check to the prosperity of the Republic, yet how many are now acting upon that belief. We have arrested railroad extension, crippled the credit of railroads generally, withdrawn deposits from banking corporations, shut up industrial works, cut down all kinds of prices and values, and brought our proverbial American enterprise to a pretty low stand-still. Such a universal fright is discreditable to a country like ours. It is idle to keep talking about our immense resources, unless we go to work to develop and improve them, and for this purpose individual action is inadequate, and corporate capital and enterprise are indispensable.—*Philada. North American.*

A paper church building is said, by the *Journal of the Society of Arts*, to have been built in Bergen, Norway, a city of nearly 300,000 inhabitants. The building is circular within and octagonal without. The reliefs outside, the statues inside, the roof, the ceiling are all constructed of *papier mache*, made waterpro